

Kevin and Pamela Shearer



Keith and Cynthia Morgan



Tom and Bonnie Hearon

## FMB names Prevost to direct new strategy

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Tom E. Prevost will direct a new strategy designed to make better use of the growing ranks of Southern Baptists living overseas who want to help in missions.

As director of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's newly formed international lay missions department, Prevost, 41, will help develop new methods of ministry overseas involving Southern Baptists and others not considered foreign missionaries by vocation. He also will direct efforts involving non-missionary personnel who fill special job requests from the field.

The department will help enlist people to work through Cooperative Services International, an arm of the board that reaches where missionaries are unwelcome. It also will help the board locate Southern Baptists and others who could spread the gospel inside foreign nations where they travel or live.

A native of Jackson, Miss., Prevost has worked at the Foreign Mission Board since 1983. Before that he was

(Continued on page 5)

## Foreign Board appoints three state couples

Three couples with Mississippi ties were appointed missionaries of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board during a service at the Southern Baptist Convention in San Antonio.

They are Kevin and Pamela Shearer, Keith and Cynthia Morgan, and Tom and Bonnie Hearon.

The Shearers will go to Peru where he will start and develop churches. He is pastor of Harmony Church, Quitman, Miss.

Shearer is a native of Ellisville, Miss., and is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas D. Shearer of Laurel.

He is a graduate of Jones County Community College, William Carey College, and earned a master of divinity degree from New Orleans Seminary.

Shearer has been pastor of Chicora First Church, Buckatunna, and Stringer Church, Stringer.

Born in Laurel, Mrs. Shearer, the former Pamela Hill, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eudell Hill. Her father is pastor of Lowery Creek Church, Laurel.

She is a graduate of JCCC and the University of Southern Mississippi. She has been a piano teacher in Buckatunna. She is a piano, voice, and organ teacher in Quitman.

The Shearers have two children: Michelle Suzanne, born in 1983; and Kimberly Dawn, 1985.

The Morgans will go to Macao where he, a physician, will be working in public health. He attends New Orleans Seminary and is a family physician at Family Medical Center, Ferriday, La.

Morgan is a graduate of Louisiana State University and earned the doctor of medicine degree from Louisiana State University Medical Center. He has been a Home Mission Board summer missionary in the Northwest, and a FMB medical receptor in Zimbabwe.

Born in New Orleans, Mrs. Morgan, the former Cynthia Cothen, is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Joe Cothen. Her father is vice president for academic affairs and professor of pastoral work at New Orleans Seminary. She is a graduate of Louisiana State University.

She has been a teacher in Charleston Heights, S.C., and Metairie, La., and taught in Zimbabwe while her husband was a medical receptor. She is a junior high teacher at Trinity Day School, Natchez.

The Morgans have two children: Micah Lane, born in 1979; and Erin Elizabeth, 1983.

The Hearons will go to South Brazil where he will be working with university students.

He is the Baptist Student Union director at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton, Tex. They are members of First Church, Belton where she is part-time college minister.

Hearon is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Hearon of Jackson. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and earned the master of divinity degree

(Continued on page 5)

The Second Front Page

# The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, July 21, 1988

Published Since 1877

## Convention theme chosen: "To him who is able"

The 1988 Mississippi Baptist Convention will meet at First Church, Jackson, Nov. 14-16, with the theme



Futral

"To him who is able," taken from Jude, verse 24.

This annual business meeting of the nearly 2,000 Southern Baptist churches in the state will include adoption of a 1989 budget, election of officers (President Jim Futral is eligible for a second one year term); receive reports from the various Mississippi Baptist agencies, and hear inspirational speakers.

Among the speakers will be Jim Henry, pastor of First Church, Orlando. Henry is a former president of the SBC Pastors' Conference. From 1963-65, he was pastor of Hollywood Church, Sledge. He will be the convention's closing speaker.

D. L. Lowrie will deliver the traditional Bible Treasure series. Each year the Bible Treasure speaker gives a devotional thought at each session

of the convention. Lowrie is director of the state missions commission for Texas Baptists.

Earl Kelly, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, will give a missions report. Futral, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, will deliver the president's address. And Bobby Perry, director of missions for the Gulf Coast Baptist Association, will deliver the convention's annual sermon.

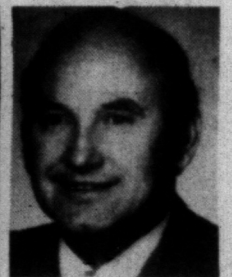
Other speakers include Landrum Leavell, president of New Orleans Seminary and Davis Saunders, vice president for Africa at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

Musicians include the Mississippi Singing Churchmen, the Broadmoor Church choir, the Gulf Coast Association choir, the Son Light Quartet, and Martha Bacon. Eva Hart will be pianist and Becky Payne will be organist.

The convention's committee on order of business includes Tommy Vinson, chairman; Hal Buchanan; Dennis Johnsey; Ron Burch; Gary Berry; and Becky Payne.



Leavell



Perry



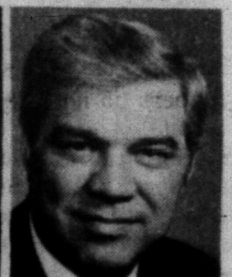
Henry



Saunders



Kelly



Lowrie

## Baptists express concern over controversial film

By Dan Martin

NASHVILLE (BP) — In increasing numbers, Southern Baptists are expressing concern over a controversial yet-to-be-released film called "The Last Temptation of Christ."

The movie, by filmmaker Martin Scorsese and based on a novel by Nikos Kazantzakis, is scheduled to be released this fall by Universal Pictures and Ceneplex Odeon Films.

The film has been criticized by such organizations as Donald Wildmon's American Family Association and James Dobson's Focus on the Family. Wildmon said he has sent copies of the script to 200 denominational leaders and has contacted 170,000 pastors. He said he is planning a mail-

ing on the movie to 2.5 million people.

Dobson has featured the movie on his broadcast on several occasions. Complaints about the movie also have surfaced on several other national broadcasts. Some religious leaders reportedly have called for the film to be destroyed.

Editor Presnall Wood of the Baptist Standard, newsjournal of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, told Baptist Press Southern Baptists in increasing numbers are calling and writing about the controversial film. "We have had a number of calls and letters, and this is one of those things which is going to continue to provoke controversy," he said, adding he has

devoted his editorial page to the matter in the July 20 issue.

Editor Jack E. Brymer Sr. of the Florida Baptist Witness, newsjournal of the Florida Baptist Convention, said material on the film is circulating in Florida, including a copy of what purports to be excerpts from the script.

"We already are receiving calls, which is a good indication Southern Baptists are becoming very concerned," he said. "My concern is that we have accurate facts before mobilizing the troops."

Wildmon told Baptist Press he has not seen the film but has a copy of an

(Continued on page 8)

## New hospital to open at Southaven

Business and government leaders from Mississippi and DeSoto County will join leaders of Baptist Memorial Health Care System on Sunday, July 31, to celebrate the opening of Baptist Memorial Hospital-DeSoto, the county's first acute care hospital facility. The ceremonies will mark the open-

ing of the \$20 million BMH-DeSoto, a 130-bed acute care and rehabilitation facility. The public will tour the facility from 2:30-4:30 p.m. with ribbon-cutting ceremonies set for 3 p.m.

All activities will occur in the BMH-DeSoto complex, located on the northeast side of Interstate 55 near Good-

man Road. The new hospital's address is 7601 Southcrest Parkway, Southaven.

Joseph Mosley is the BMH-DeSoto administrator.

BMH-DeSoto will provide 100 acute care beds for patients from DeSoto

(Continued on page 4)



# Parks assures missionaries no doctrinal 'purge' ahead

By Art Toalston

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — No purge is under way of Southern Baptist missionaries, Foreign Mission Board President R. Keith Parks has told the denomination's 3,800-plus overseas personnel.

Parks wrote to the missionaries after the board requested the resignation of missionary Michael E. Willett. The mission leader addressed questions and rumors beginning to arise as a result of the action in light of "suspicion and lack of trust" in the strife-weary Southern Baptist Convention.

Willett has been asked to resign by board administrators because they are not satisfied with the clarity of his views on the deity, miracles and resurrection of Christ. Willett, from Liberty, Mo., has been in language study in Costa Rica and was scheduled to become a seminary teacher in Venezuela in August. Foreign Mission Board trustees were to act on his status as a missionary during their July 18-21 meeting in Glorieta, N.M.

"This decision was made carefully

and prayerfully in accordance with convictions of those of us who had to make it," Parks wrote to the missionaries. In Willett's case, he noted, board administrators' actions are "consistent with the guiding principles we have valued through the years."

One question being asked is whether the action is a result of pressure by conservative trustees, who now represent a majority of the Foreign Mission Board. Another question is whether Willett's expression of his views supporting women in ministry is the underlying issue. Willett wrote an article, "Opposition to women is unforgivable sin," in the April issue of SBC Today, an independent newspaper affiliated with Southern Baptist moderates.

"We must never get to the point where any group or individual is trying to pressure decisions for reasons other than the stated reasons," Parks said in an interview. "I would not be comfortable working that way, stating a secondary reason as the primary

reason.

"We're working consistently with the way we've always worked. If that ever changes, I am publicly saying to the missionaries, 'I'll tell you.' If we ever get to the place where decisions are being made under pressure, I would tell the missionaries that."

He said his stance is "a matter of personal integrity."

Parks insisted Willett's theology is at issue. He said the missionary, in questioning some of the miracles of Christ recorded in the New Testament, falls short of a view of biblical authority necessary for teaching in a mission seminary.

Willett submitted a resignation letter June 18 but rescinded it July 7 after board officials reiterated that his theology was at issue. The missionary said he believes his theology is acceptable to Southern Baptists and that he is being martyred by conservatives for his views on women in ministry.

Willett was asked to resign after a review of concerns about his theology expressed by fellow missionaries in Costa Rica. The first missionary to voice concern, Michael McGinnis, from Birmingham, Ala., did so by writing to a minister in his home church. The letter received some circulation before another minister forwarded it to Parks.

In writing to the missionaries, Parks noted, "The way concerns were expressed initially was improper and regrettable." McGinnis has "apologized for not going directly to the area director with his concerns," he added.

"The way we respond to questions regarding a missionary's doctrine, morality or integrity has not changed," Parks wrote. "When questions are raised, we go directly to the missionary involved. The decision we reach is based on discussions with the person involved and not on hearsay. The decision involves several staff. The staff then shapes a recommendation to the board if a change in status of the missionary seems necessary."

Controversy arising from a missionary's theology, Parks wrote, is rare. The Willett case "is not the beginning of a 'purge' of the missionary force," he said, but it "does indicate that decisions made in relationship to candidates and to missionaries are sometimes controversial."

"My hope," Parks said in the interview, "is that we can avoid as much as possible the distraction and debilitation that comes from rumors and suspicions about motives — and that the missionaries can get on with their God-given task."



## Summer missionaries in state

These are the summer missionaries serving in Mississippi right now. They are working in six areas of the state. From left they are Jill Campbell, a student at Texas Tech University from Lakewood, Colorado; Martha Ray, a student at Northeast Mississippi Community College from Eupora; Parker Burgess, a student at the University of Texas at San Antonio from San Antonio; Ann Spencer, a student at North Georgia College from Oakwood, Georgia; DeWayne Johnson, a student at Northwest Mississippi Community College from Olive Branch; Diedra Giaccone, a student at Southwest Mississippi Community College from Independence, La.; Richie Stewart, a student at Northwest Mississippi Community College from Olive Branch; Christi Troutman, a student Mars Hill College from Yadkinville, N.C.; Greg West, a student at Delta State University from Water Valley; and Melonye Barton, a student at Mississippi Delta Community College from Indianola. Campbell and Ray are working on the Gulf Coast doing surveys and children's work. Burgess is working with children in such as Vacation Bible Schools in the Pearl River Baptist Association. Spencer and Giaccone are in Pike County doing resort and ministry center work. Johnson and Stewarts are working in the Northwest Baptist Association's camp and doing some Vacation Bible Schools. Troutman and Barton are working in the North Delta Baptist Association at its ministry center and doing children's work. And West is in Yalobusha Baptist Association doing resort ministries in the state park.

## Missionary will seek Indonesian citizenship

By Marty Croll

SEMARANG, Indonesia (BP) — Southern Baptist missionary Clarence Griffin has begun to seek citizenship in Indonesia so he and his wife, Ruth, can continue their work in the absence of a permanent visa.

Griffin of Greenwood, S.C., said he will ask the Indonesian government's Religion Department to recommend to the Justice Department that he be allowed to become a full citizen of Indonesia. The process could take several years and eventually would cost him his U.S. citizenship.

At his retirement the 56-year-old Griffin runs a remote risk of not being able to regain his American citizenship. But he said he is willing to take that risk to gain the opportunity of the present. Working under the Evangelism Department of the Indonesian Baptist Convention, the Griffins believe their primary concern now is helping Indonesians start new churches across the midsection of Java Island.

"We feel like the Lord wants us to stay here, and this seems to be the only way to stay," Griffin said.

Indonesia has informed missionaries who have been working there under Religion Department approval for 10 years or more that their visas will not be extended again. About 30 Southern Baptist missionary families, with some exceptions, could be affected during the next year.

The Griffins' visa extension runs out Aug. 12. Only if they are involved in applying for permanent citizenship might government authorities waive the restriction, Griffin said.

Last December the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board approved a policy allowing missionaries voluntarily to become citizens of certain countries where access is restricted. Indonesian immigration officials en-

couraged missionaries to make such a move. Missionaries to Indonesia first proposed the policy to the mission board last October.

The board's vice president for Asia and the Pacific, William R. Wakefield, said he expects some other Southern Baptist missionaries in Indonesia may make the same choice as the Griffins when faced with no other option to stay in the country.

The Indonesian Baptist Convention set a goal in 1985 to start 500 new churches and develop 100 new pastors by the end of 1990. So far, 250 new churches have been started. In the responsive Semarang area where the Griffins live, they work with Baptists in about 100 churches, chapels and preaching points.

For 26 years the Griffins have made Indonesia their home. They know the language, understand the culture, have a good working relationship with Baptist leaders and live in one of the areas of Indonesia most open to the gospel, Griffin said.

Mrs. Griffin of Cherryville, N.C., will remain an American citizen. This will allow Griffin to live in the United States with her when they are not in Indonesia.

Three of their four grown sons, who live in the United States, favor Griffin making such a move, he said, but the fourth had reservations. A brother of Griffin said he did not think the change is a good idea, but if God is leading Griffin that way, he could understand and would support him.

"The main thing is, it will allow me to stay in the country," Griffin stressed. "Then again, we don't have to make the final decision until later. The whole process could take several years. But this seems like the right thing to do now."

Marty Croll writes for FMB.

## New hospital to open

(Continued from page 3)

and surrounding North Mississippi counties. The full-service institution will offer obstetrical services, including labor and delivery and nursery; 24-hour emergency room service; a wide array of radiology services, including state-of-the-art equipment to provide CT scans, ultrasound, mammography and nuclear medicine services; and inpatient and outpatient surgery. Full laboratory and pharmacy services will operate on the hospital's premises.

Adjoining the hospital is a professional office building that will accommodate offices for 25 physicians.

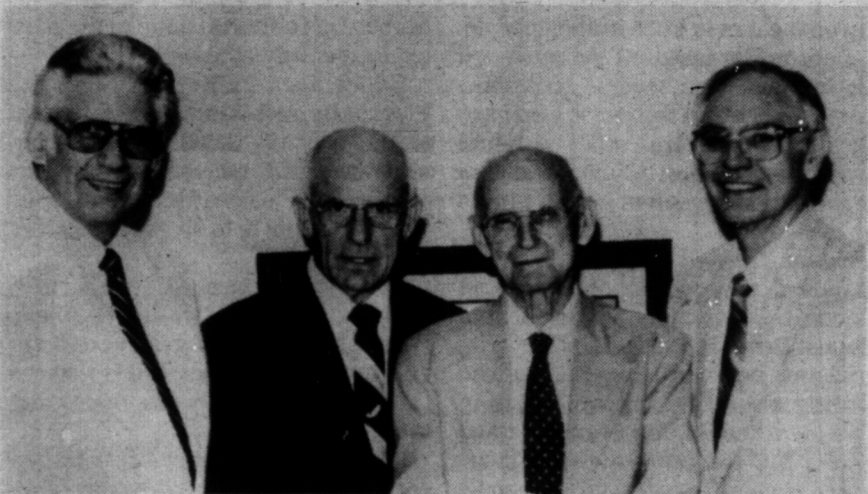
When the hospital is at full capaci-

ty, it should employ more than 300 persons.

The hospital will anchor the recently-announced SouthCrest development project. The \$100 million, 177-acre development project will provide for the planned growth of office, retail, institutional and residential sites.

BMH-DeSoto in Southaven is one of nine regional hospitals owned and operated by the Baptist health care system.

The system, parent corporation of Baptist Memorial Hospital, Memphis, is owned by Southern Baptists in Mississippi, Arkansas, and Tennessee.



## Mattie Pinson scholarship established

From left are Hollis Bryant, Ray Grissett, Eugene Farr, and Aubrey Boone. The first three are establishing a scholarship fund through the Mississippi Baptist Foundation which is directed by Boone. The Mattie Pinson Memorial Fund is being established to provide scholarship monies for ministerial wives at Clarke College for wives of ministers in the Clarke area who would like college experience. Mattie Pinson is the late wife of E.R. Pinson, retired professor at Mississippi College. Mrs. Pinson, according to Farr, who taught both at Clarke and Mississippi College, "took an interest in ministerial wives and was a sponsor of ministerial wives at MC." Bryant and Grissett, staffers in the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, were students at Clarke while Farr was on the faculty. Another fund exists for ministerial wives at MC.





# Peace Committee chair affirms group's efforts

By Lynn P. Clayton

ROANOKE, Va. (BP) — Charles Fuller, who led the Southern Baptist Convention Peace Committee from the day of its birth until its dissolution, still believes handling matters by "process rather than option" is the best way for the denomination to deal with its problems.

"Process is more enduring and has more to contribute," said Fuller, pastor at First Baptist Church of Roanoke, Va., who chaired the SBC Peace Committee during its three-year life.

Messengers to the recent Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting unanimously approved a committee recommendation that the group be dismissed. The committee was formed in 1985 to help resolve the ongoing theological/political controversy within the SBC. Its report of findings and 10 recommendations was adopted overwhelmingly at the 1987 SBC meeting. One recommendation continued the committee for up to three years to observe the response of SBC entities to the report.

Following dismissal of the committee, Fuller told the Baptist Message, Louisiana Baptists' weekly newsletter, he believes the committee's process has allowed leaders of a "new middle" to emerge in Southern Baptist life.

"These men are not different theologically from those presently in leadership, but they are not involved in machinery or counter-machinery politics. While they have very strongly conservative theological stances, their contribution will be in spirit and attitude."

Although he would not name the emerging leaders and said he does not

believe any of them will become a candidate for the SBC presidency during the next five years or so, Fuller said he believes they will "help people have a good feeling about Southern Baptists."

"They have some allowance for — mutual respect for — a broader spectrum and share a positive accent on things. They will help people recover," he noted.

"They have finally found a place where they can put in their boat."

Fuller admitted, "I would find that will be a refreshing development."

He also said he has been asked "numerous times" if he would be willing to consider being a compromise candidate for SBC president, but added: "I've not had a chance to think about it. We are in a major building program (at his church) for the next two years, and that is going to receive my full attention."

Looking back over the three-year work of the committee, Fuller recalled accepting the challenge of committee chair with the realization of the extreme difficulty of the task.

"I knew from the start that it was going to be time consuming, and, to a certain degree, a no-win situation," he said. "But my wife told me, 'Maybe this is the contribution you are to make to Southern Baptists because of who you are.'"

"My spirit is cooperative with genuine respect — I love those who differ from me."

He said he feels the Peace Committee, far from being a failure, accomplished two main tasks: "We served as a shock absorber over those years. And we provided a platform, a

forum, for people to express themselves, and that has been healthy. Southern Baptists felt someone was set aside to hear them."

The committee came to believe at its last meeting that it was time for the convention to move beyond what the committee offered, he said, noting, "You have to turn to what is now the ongoing process, the trustee process."

The process of the controversy has broadened the involvement of more people in the trustee structure of convention agencies, he added: "We are using more different people. In the process, obviously, we're going to have to remember that trustees bring to the institution and agencies areas of strength. And we definitely need to focus on what they can contribute. I think these different folks can be taught, but they must bring the expertise."

In leaving the Peace Committee work to history, Fuller expressed deep appreciation for the support of the members and staff of the church where he has been pastor for 26 years.

"I have not taken this (committee work or controversy) into the pulpit. The only way it has been mentioned is to pray for the work of the committee," he said.

"And we have a great church staff of longevity. We have two who have been with us 20 and 22 years, and others who have been with us 10 to 12 years. There is a great trust level."

## FMB names Prevost

(Continued from page 3)

a home missionary in Phoenix, Ariz., and a pastor in California and West Virginia. He is married to the former Carol Page of Amory, Miss., and they have two sons.

In another development, the board has named Norman N. Burnes III to direct its missionary learning department and Arville Senter to be associate director of missionary orientation. Burnes will oversee orientation and training programs offered primarily at the Cauthen Missionary Learning Center in Rockville, Va. Senter will help plan and schedule the seven-week missionary orientation program.

## Raymond pastor to retire soon

Sam Mason, pastor of Raymond Church, Raymond, will retire July 31. "Brother Sam," as he is known to



Mason

most, has been pastor in Hinds-Madison Association for 32 years. After a student pastorate at Lucien, he became first pastor of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson, where he served 16 years. After a year's interim pastorate at Pocahontas, he began a 15-year pastorate at Raymond. Mason is a graduate of Mississippi College and

New Orleans Seminary.

He is the husband of Esther Gunnell Mason and the father of a daughter, Jan Brock, and son, Sam Mason III. The Masons will reside in their new retirement home at 581 West Main Street in Raymond.

He will be available for supply and interim service after a brief rest. The Masons will be reached at P. O. Box 436, Raymond or by telephone at 857-5184.

Raymond Church will host a retirement fellowship at the McKenzie Arena, Hinds Community College, beginning at 3 on Sunday afternoon, July 31.

## Foreign Board appoints couples

(Continued from page 3)

from Southwestern Seminary. He also received Clinical Pastoral Education training from Valley Baptist Medical Center, Harlingen, Tex.

He has been a BSU director at William Carey College; minister of youth and music at Twin Lakes Church, Jackson; a FMB journeyman in Argentina; and a HMB summer missionary in Puerto Rico.

Mrs. Hearon, the former Bonnie Ernst of San Antonio, is a graduate of the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor,

earned the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary, and earned Clinical Pastoral Education training from Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas.

She has been associate BSU director at the University of Southern Mississippi and at Texas A&M University; a student worker at Sam Houston State University; and a social caseworker at South Texas Children's Home in Beeville.

Thursday, July 21, 1988

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

## Missionary doctor faces criminal charges in India

BANGALORE, India (BP) — The missionary administrator of Southern Baptists' hospital here will face criminal proceedings in late July soon after she returns to India from a short stay in the United States.

The missionary, Rebekah Naylor, has been accused of breaking a law that governs the operation of factories by leading the hospital in reducing its work force. The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board has retained legal counsel for her in the case, and the hearings have been rescheduled several times.

"We're not a factory," said Naylor, a surgeon from Fort Worth, Texas, who came to Bangalore after being appointed in 1973. "The very issue of any hospital being a factory is ridiculous."

A labor reduction by 39 employees triggered a dispute between union workers and hospital officials. Angry workers hung an effigy of Naylor at the hospital's front gates last June and burned it six months later.

Naylor said she found out on a

Saturday in mid-December that a police officer held a warrant for her arrest but would give her until the next Monday to appear in court and pay bond. Later she learned the warrant specified she not be allowed out on bail. Without a warning, she would have been required to spend the weekend in jail, she said.

The labor cutback came as the Foreign Mission Board began to reduce its subsidy to the hospital, which has been at the center of Southern Baptist mission work in India since its dedication in 1973. In keeping with a worldwide policy, the board is moving toward making all such hospitals self-supporting.

At its June meeting, the board approved in principle a proposal to release administrative control of the hospital to the Christian Medical College in Vellore, India. Under the proposed agreement, the board would continue to own the multi-million dollar facility and assign missionaries to it.

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## Northwest sends 38 west to Emerado

Calvary Baptist Church in Emerado, North Dakota, near Grand Forks Air Force Base, was the destination of the 38 people from 17 churches in the Northwest Baptist Association. Approximately 1,500 hours of labor were invested in Calvary Church during the seven day trip.

The group held a weekend revival at Calvary and in Langdon, Grand Forks, and Fargo; they held a Vacation Bible School with an adult class mornings and evenings; they sorted and classified library books; surveyed in Grand Forks for new mission work; and did some construction work.

In the VBS there were 15 professions of faith with an enrollment of 275. In the survey, the group knocked on 400 doors discovering five or six prospective families.

Roger Dorsett is pastor of Calvary. He and his wife Millie went to Calvary last October from Jackson County Baptist Association where he served as director of missions.

Calvary's membership is 206, composed of about 95 percent military families. Approximately 70 percent of the Sunday School is under 18 with the largest concentration in preschool.

## Fagan, Futral will preach at SS leadership conferences



Futral

Fagan

Julian Fagan, pastor of First Church, Pontotoc, and Jim Futral, pastor of Broadmoor Church, Jackson, will be guest preachers for Sunday School leadership conferences at Gulfshore.

Fagan will preach for conferences Aug. 1-3 and 4-6, 1988. Futral president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, will be guest preacher for conferences August 8-10 and 11-13.

Four guest preachers will bring messages during the ASSIST/Small Church Sunday School Conference July 28-30. They are Rick Spencer, director of missions for Monroe and Itawamba Associations; Ken Rhodes, director of missions in Pearl River Association; Nolan Houston, director of missions in Carroll and Montgomery Associations; and P. J. Scott, of First Church, Olive Branch. Music

leaders are Larry Futral, First Church, Ocean Springs; Mike Edwards, Oakhurst Church, Clarksdale; and Lew King, Parkway Church, Jackson.

"Gather the People" based on Deuteronomy 31:12 is the theme for the Sunday School conferences. Leadership training is being offered in all Sunday School leadership areas, according to Keith Wilkinson, director of the state Sunday School Department.

In addition to the state staff conference leaders include: J. C. Prather, Dawn Dwyer, Ruth Allen, Terry Jumper, Eva Cain, Lily Culp, Mary Ingram, Judy Wesley, Pam Black, Don Chapin, Don and Judy Hicks, Steve Huff, Edwin and Pam Price, Cynthia Martin, Kay Spencer, Ron Thomas, Evelyn Vaughn, Carol Williams, Beth Andrews, Patti Edwards, Betty Jo Hall, Eloise Kerr, Susie Lockard, Cindy Lumpkin, David and Amy Morrow, Buelah Thigpen, Sybil Thompson, Joann White, Jackie Winters, Mackie McCollister, and Eleanor Yarborough.

Registration can be made by writing Frank Simmons, Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Henderson Point, Pass Christian, MS 39571, phone 601/452-7261.

## Tupelo church will sponsor children's choir workshop

Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, is sponsoring a workshop for directors and teachers of preschool and children's choirs. The workshop will take place Aug. 8, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the church.

Guest clinicians include Eileen Straw of Second Ponce de Leon Church, Atlanta, for leaders of older children; Nan Grantham of Broad-

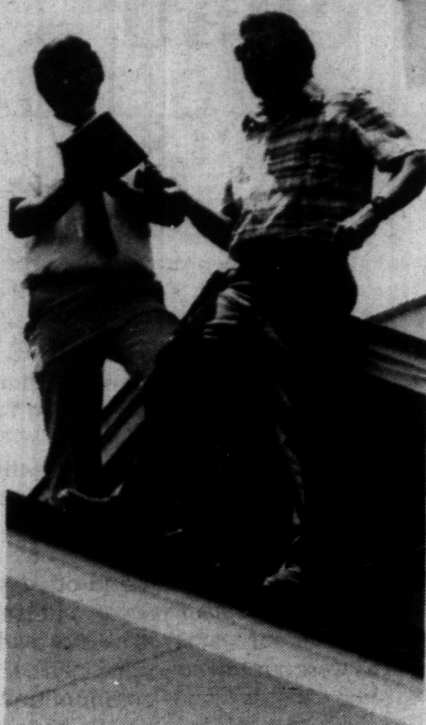
moor Church, Jackson, for leaders of younger children; and Talmadge Butler of Gentilly Church, New Orleans, for leaders of older preschoolers.

A \$5 registration fee includes lunch. For details contact Diane Smith, music assistant at Harrisburg, 842-6917.

## Missionary's parents die

Bess Smith Langston of Jackson died June 30 of cancer. Her funeral service was held on July 2. Her husband, Lelan L. Langston Sr., 78, a craftsman and cabinet maker, died of heart failure July 9 at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. His funeral was held at Wright and Ferguson

Funeral Home, July 12. The two were the parents of Susan (Mrs. Jason) Carlisle, Southern Baptist missionary to Uruguay, and Lelan L. Langston Jr. of Denver. Both Langstons were members of Woodland Hills Baptist Church, Jackson.

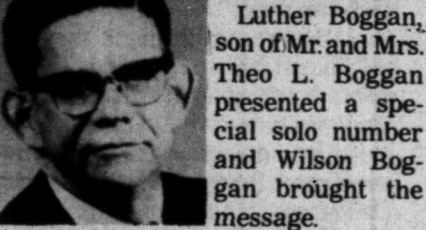


### "Standing on the Promises"

"Standing on the Promises." That's what the Pearl Hill pastor, Eddie Pilgrim (left) and Sunday School director, Jimmy Ingram, are singing from the roof of the Leake County church. The two climbed up there after the Sunday School passed its goal of 150 for the fifth Sunday of May. The 157 present shattered previous records for SS attendance. The Growth Spiral in November, 1987, began a growth spurt that has continued. Pastor Pilgrim says he gives credit to the Sunday School leaders for their dedication and hard work.

## W. W. Boggan honored on 50th year of ministry

Wilson W. Boggan of Moss Point, celebrated his 50th year as an ordained minister Sunday, July 3. The service was held at Macedonia Church.



Luther Boggan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theo L. Boggan presented a special solo number and Wilson Boggan brought the message. Other features of the program included a plaque by the Macedonia Church; a certificate of appreciation by the General Moore Children of the Confederacy, Chapter #67, for faithfully and honorably serving as a chaplain during World War II. The Juliet Hopkins Chapter No. 2537, Pelham, Alabama awarded Boggan with the Cross of Military Service.

Boggan is married to Wilma Allbritton Boggan. He has four children: Elvis W., Richard D., Elizabeth Luellen Howard, and Jim. He is now retired, serving in supply opportunities present themselves. He teaches a 40 member Sunday School class and has a weekly 30 minute radio program. Charles Case is pastor of the church.

"The squeaking wheel doesn't always get the grease. Sometimes it gets replaced."

— VIC GOLD

## Youngs resign CLC; accept church post

NASHVILLE (BP) — John and Shirley Young have resigned administrative positions at the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, the third and fourth staff members to leave the agency since June 10.

Young will become minister of media, evangelism and discipleship at First Baptist Church of Independence, Mo., effective Aug. 1.

At the CLC, Young has been associate director and director of product development. Shirley Young has been administrative assistant to Executive Director N. Larry Baker, who resigned effective June 10 to become pastor of First Baptist Church of Pineville, La.

In addition to the Youngs and Baker, another elected staff member, Tim Fields, also has resigned, leaving five professional staff members at the embattled moral concerns agency. Fields, who was associate director and director of communications, accepted a position at the Southern Baptist Education Commission, effective July 1.

The Youngs were elected to the staff in June 1987, in a divided vote.

The telephone poll in which they were elected was disputed by one commissioner, leading the six-member executive committee to elect them separately from the poll.

Prior to coming to the CLC, Young had been on the staffs of First Baptist Church of Raytown, Mo., and First Baptist Church of North Kansas City, Mo.

Shirley Young is the daughter of Lillian Abrams of Greenwood and the late Joe Abrams, who retired as associate editor of the Baptist Record. Mrs. Young was employed at Midwestern Seminary 1979 to 1987.

five of those years as administrative assistant to Baker, who was academic dean at the school prior to accepting the CLC post.

The Youngs have three children: Brian, 15; Allison, 11; and Keri, 10.

## Education Commission elects Tim Fields

GREENVILLE, S.C. (BP) — Tim Fields, associate director and director of communications of the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission, has been named assistant director of the Southern Baptist Education Commission effective July 1.

In his new position, Fields will be responsible for communication functions of the commission, including news and information, production, marketing and distribution of commission products and promotional materials and other public relations and administrative responsibilities. He also will be managing editor of The Southern Baptist Educator.



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## Churches adopt expanded plan

The following churches have adopted the Expanded Annuity Plan since those reported in the June 23 issue of the Baptist Record: Alcorn: East Corinth; Calhoun: New Liberty; Choctaw: New Haven; Jeff Davis: Society Hill; Lee: FBC Plantersville; Lincoln: FBC Brookhaven; Pike: West McComb; Rankin: FBC Richland; and Smith: White Oak.

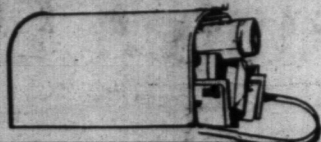
## Golden Gate alumni plan reunion

The Alumni Association of Golden Gate Seminary is planning its first-ever alumni reunion to be held on the campus, Aug. 11-13, 1988.

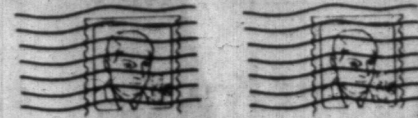
Harold K. Graves, Bill Pinson, and Frank Pollard, past presidents of the seminary, will be present, along with current president, Bill Crews, Jerry Clower, Christian entertainer from Mississippi, will be special guest.

For more information, write to Ed Oliver, Director of Communications and Alumni Relations, Golden Gate Seminary, Mill Valley, CA 94941 or call (415) 388-8080.





# Letters to the editor



## Pews needed

Editor:

We are a small mission church that has a great need for some pews. We need 14 to 18 pews that are eight to 10 feet long. I am writing to ask you to place an article in your state paper, if you possibly can, concerning this need. It is my prayer that we might be able to obtain these pews at a cost we can afford.

Richard Covington, pastor  
Red Lodge Baptist Church  
P. O. Box 197  
Red Lodge, MT 59068

## Controversy capsules

Editor:

I am writing concerning your recent "new" article entitled "Controversy Capsules," and I quote from one: "The staff feels folks might want to know who is saying what about whom, so this space is for that." This reminds me of a juicy piece of gossip like "he said that you said that they said he did whatever you said he did!"

I thought that the Baptist Record is supposed to be a religious newspaper, printing the news around our state, country, and nation concerning our churches and what the Lord is doing through his people and articles about the work of our home and foreign missionaries.

I would like to give you some advice from a dear lady who has been with the Lord for several years now. She was my grandmother. "The more you stir a stink the stinker it stinks." So, I pray that you and your staff will rethink adding a "Gossip Column" to our Baptist Record.

All of us as Southern Baptists would do well to memorize James 3:2 "For in many things we all stumble. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body."

My prayer for our whole denomination is that we not offend any man by our words and that the Lord will bring a great revival in our land. We need to be out knocking on doors and winning people to Christ rather than carrying on a verbal war among ourselves.

Mrs. Earl Parrish  
Starkville

Our "Controversy Capsules" was not a gossip column but an attempt to get into the paper some things that we felt Mississippi Baptists needed to know about without taking up the enormous amount of space that those stories demanded in their original state. We didn't like what was going on, but it was going on. It was not the messenger but the message that was bad. — Editor

## Resolution No. 5

Editor:

I must say that you and I do not agree on the major issues in Resolution 5, which you set forth in your editorial in the post convention issue

of the Baptist Record.

Pastoral authority and priesthood of the believer are not contradictory. When you look at whole context of Hebrews 13, it clearly shows that we are all priests unto God, responsible for giving spiritual offerings (13:15, 16) and are also to obey and submit to our church leaders (13:17).

You, in your editorial, and others, at the convention during the debate, presented a totally wrong view of pastoral authority. Pastoral authority by no means sets the pastor up as the "priest," dictator, or demigod. Resolution 5 does not describe pastoral authority in that way either. Obedience and submission to spiritual leaders are "not to enhance their position but to grant them the assurance that they have not lost them whom God has committed to their care. (Broadman Bible Commentary, vol. 12, p. 96.)

Furthermore, Resolution 5 is in total agreement with the Baptist Faith and Message Preamble (next to last paragraph). We all need to realize that we as Baptists have always recognized some limitations in doctrinal diversity. The doctrine of the priesthood of the believer does not give people the right to believe whatever they wish and still be seen as loyal Southern Baptists. Resolution 5 is not setting up a new view of the priesthood of the believer but seems to be setting forth the scriptural view as set forth in Hebrew 13 and the Baptist view set forth in the Baptist Faith and Message.

I request that you print Resolution 5 in total, so the readers can judge for themselves whether your and Dr. Lolley's views are correct. (Dr. Lolley's view was presented on page 6 of the June 23 issue of Baptist Record.)

Marty Evans Jr., pastor  
Yellow Leaf Church  
Oxford

## Resolution No. 5

Editor:

I was a messenger to the recent Southern Baptist Convention in San Antonio and I have in front of me the text of Resolution No. 5 — "On the Priesthood of the Believer," as printed in the SBC Bulletin on the day the vote was taken.

I am appalled by the gross distortions and inaccuracies in your editorial comments concerning this resolution. This resolution explicitly says that we, "... affirm ... belief in the biblical doctrine of the Priesthood of the Believer (1 Peter 2:9 and Rev. 1:6)." It does not say anywhere in the text of this resolution that the pastor is to be a priest, as you falsely allege. It simply affirms, "... that elders, or pastors, are called of God to lead the local church (Acts 20:28)."

Will you please have the fairness and decency to print the full text of this resolution in your paper, without further editorial comment, so that the people can judge for themselves what it says? If there is dissent, let it be based on what is actually stated, not

on the distortions and misrepresentations you have imposed on the statement.

Steven R. Wilkinson  
Gulfport

## The only source

Editor:

God created the home, the church, and government. They are all divinely ordained and established.

For such a time as this, in the midst of severe drought and dire economic plight, our leaders have expressed their concern by speaking out and establishing hotlines and other programs to help our people; but isn't it time for our leaders to be true leaders as were our forebears and lead our nation, states, and communities in prayer and place our faith, hope, and trust in God — the only source and power for solving our real problems.

As is said in II Chronicles 7:14, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Ron Aldridge  
Jackson

## Resist intimidation

Editor:

Recently the SBC Executive Committee narrowly voted in San Antonio to table a disturbing four-point motion. The first point is based on the principle of fairness toward "All Southern Baptists." But points two, three, and four are attempts to either control coerce, manipulate, or intimidate Baptist Press.

The motion asks that Baptist Press be directed to:

1. Recognize their responsibility to be fair to all Southern Baptists.
2. Respond in writing to correspondence and questions asked concerning their reporting by members of the Executive Committee.
3. Represent the Southern Baptist Convention positively and fairly to the secular media as well as to Baptist publications.
4. Recognize the need for admitting

error and apologizing when mistakes are made.

Consider point two. Fairness toward "all Southern Baptists" means we do not coerce other Southern Baptists to respond in writing to our correspondence or questions. This same freedom and respect should be extended to Baptist Press.

Point number three infringes upon the freedom and responsibility of Baptist Press to report SBC news as objectively as possible. Presenting the SBC "positively" in every circumstance turns Baptist Press into Baptist Propaganda Press. Propaganda prevents us from receiving an accurate picture of SBC life. Truth brings educated messengers to our annual conventions. Propaganda creates misinformed messengers.

Point number four over-emphasizes Baptist Press mistakes, which are less than one percent of all Baptist press releases. Fairness toward "all Southern Baptists" means complimenting Baptist Press for their 99 percent accuracy, not intimidating them for their one percent inaccuracy.

If this motion is approved, a free Baptist Press will become a luxury of the past. A controlled and manipulated Baptist Press will become the standard for the future.

Roy Bryan Moore, pastor  
Improve Church  
Columbia

You have indeed struck a responsive chord with me on that one. I appreciate your interest in analyzing that story on the SBC Executive Committee meeting to see the danger that is being posed for Baptist Press and the unfettered dissemination of news. What is reported is not all good news; but it is what is going on, and Baptists have a right to know about it, and indeed a responsibility to know, so that they can make responsible decisions.

As a matter of interest, I am chairman of the Baptist Press Liaison Committee for the nationwide organization of state paper editors, and we are very interested in protecting Baptist Press. And you can rest assured that as long as the present group of state paper editors re-

mains in office, Baptist Press will remain free or it will not remain. If it were to lose its freedom it also would lose its credibility and would not be useful. — Editor

## Divided convention?

Editor:

For 14 years I have been associated with The Baptist Record as a pastor mostly in Mississippi. During these years I have appreciated your work as editor and the fine publication of which we can be rightly proud.

I am, however, deeply concerned with your report of our convention. That "Southern Baptists are split down the middle" is an absurd understanding of the convention tone. This view and very careless assessment of our constituency is not at all in keeping with the objectivity I would expect from you. In fact, to measure the pulse of the convention on the ballot for president shows about as much insight as a mole.

The presidential decision was the expression of duly elected messengers who had a great trust in and respect for both nominees (not to disregard the two pseudo candidates). The marginal vote for Richard Jackson was certainly not a reflection of the liberal population of our convention. The real division of the convention's messengers was probably much more accurately expressed on the proposal to change the convention sermon preacher to a woman in 1990, etc.

As to the "priesthood of the believer" and the authority of the pastor issue, I consider Richard Jackson to be an exemplary "strong pastoral leader." If I understand our convention churches, those that have really impacted their cities and the world for the Gospel of Christ have authoritative leadership in their pulpits. I think of First, Dallas; Jacksonville; Atlanta; Dauphin Way; North Phoenix; Bellevue, etc. These men are not tyrants nor dictators but rather men who "are keeping watch over your souls." (Hebrews 13:17, RSV)

(Continued on page 13)

PARDONED TO BE PRIESTS Harris

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PRIESTHOOD OF  
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# Revival dates

## Wanted: 500 churches to pray

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Wanted: 500 churches to help overcome barriers separating 1.3 billion people from the gospel.

The president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board simply wants the congregations to pray.

R. Keith Parks, in his monthly prayer alert to Southern Baptist churches, is asking 500 of them to make one-year commitments to pray for unevangelized masses of people "where prayer is virtually the only strategy that can be employed."

Last August, in an address during Foreign Missions Week at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center, Parks called for 100 churches to make such commitments. He issued the same call on the Foreign Mission Board's PrayerLine and during Woman's Missionary Union Week at Ridgecrest (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center. More than 300 churches

responded. The board's office of international prayer strategy assigned each congregation to a country or people group and mailed monthly prayer bulletins.

To avoid jeopardizing Christians in countries or cultures where witnessing is restricted, churches were asked not to mention the prayer project in radio and TV broadcasts or in mailings.

"Already we've become aware of positive changes in situations in several of these prayed-for places," Parks noted. "We believe these new developments are the result of concerted prayer."

Parks' call for prayer by 500 churches during the coming year was issued in connection with the July 3 "concert of prayer" in Southern Baptist churches. The "concert of prayer," the first Sunday of every month, focuses on concerns related to world

evangelization. Each month's focus is shared over PrayerLine, the board's 24-hour toll-free telephone service.

The board is placing "a new emphasis on an old truth — communicating with Southern Baptists in a systematic way to say: Here are some nations.

Except through the grace of God and the power of prayer, we don't know how anything can be done there. No country or people group can close themselves to prayer and the power of the Holy Spirit," he said.

Prayer, then, is the first step to "open the opportunity" for work among people who, in Parks' words, "have never had a clear witness about Jesus and his way of salvation."

Churches interested in volunteering their prayer efforts should call or write the Foreign Mission Board's office of international prayer strategy in Richmond, Va.

## Baptists express concern over film

(Continued from page 3) earlier script. "I also have talked with people who reviewed a later script, and they are very similar," he said.

The film, he said, "presents Jesus as a mentally unstable person who fights being the Son of God, a sinner who doesn't know who will pay for his sins, a person who lashes out at the sick and poor, a traitor to the Jews, one who lusts after Mary Magdalene

and a bigamist." The movie also reportedly features nudity and sexual scenes.

"Specific instances (in the script) are irrelevant," Wildmon said. "The general thrust of the movie is blasphemous. We are asking people to call Universal and ask them not to release the film. Then we are asking people to call their local theaters and out of respect for Christians in the

local community not to show the film."

He said he began protesting the film in December 1987 but "backed off when they said they would let us screen it. They (Universal) told us it would honor our Lord, but when they put off the screening time, I backed off and did not attend the screening" held in New York July 12.

Wildmon maintained Universal has two versions of the movie and charged what religious leaders saw at the screening is a "work in progress" with the more objectionable scenes deleted.

The movie was screened as a 'rough cut,' to 40 to 50 religious leaders in New York. No press representatives were allowed to participate.

Evelyn Dukovic, executive vice president of Morality in Media, told Baptist Press she attended the screening: "I found it extremely offensive. It pictures Christ as a sort of fearful, apprehensive, weak person. This is not the historical figure of Christ, and that really offended me.

"There was nudity, and in a dream sequence presenting Jesus as marrying Mary Magdalene, there is a sex scene," said Dukovic, a Catholic. "The film is not only objectionable but extremely offensive to any believing Christian. What I saw was a rough cut, but I don't see how they could ever make this palatable for believing Christians."

Robert L. Maddox, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State in Silver Spring, Md., and a Southern Baptist minister, also told Baptist Press he has seen the movie. He agreed with Dukovic the movie will never be acceptable "to the person in the pew; it will be offensive."

He added he knew very little about the film and had "missed the brouhaha" which has arisen. "I am not recommending that people see the film, but it does have its commen-

(Continued on page 9)

### Devotional

## Mandate to choose

By Frank Bishop

*If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple? (Luke 14:25).*

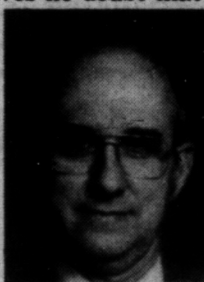
Luke 14:25-33 may have some harsh sayings, but it leaves no doubt that discipling is not a life of ease. When Jesus spoke these words he was surrounded by a great multitude. Unlike many of us today, Jesus was never overly impressed with the multitude. Please don't misunderstand. It wasn't that he did not care for the multitude. He cared very deeply. But he knew not to put his faith in fickle followers of a crowd. When Jesus began to describe the cost of commitment, most of the crowd found business elsewhere.

It seems to me that Jesus makes at least three basic points in this passage: First, The business of being a disciple requires a choice of loyalties. To suggest that we must hate our nearest and dearest means simply that no love in our life can compare with the love we bear to him. As a matter of fact any committed follower of Christ discovers that love for family and friends becomes dearer and more intense in direct proportion to one's love for Christ. I heard Bill Bright, founder and president of Campus Crusade for Christ, say one time that he never really knew what it meant to love his wife until he fell in love with Jesus.

Second, being a disciple involves not only a choice of loyalties but a choice for life. Any serious consideration concerning the call of Christ must take into account that Jesus never called followers to be temporary disciples. The closest experience that we know that can be compared to a choice to follow Christ is our experience of marriage. It is designed to include all of life for as long as life lasts. So is a choice to follow Christ. Every aspect of one's life should be touched and changed for as long as life lasts.

Third, discipleship is not only a choice of loyalties and a choice for life, but is a choice involving cost. The illustrations of the builder of the tower and the king going to war are clear indications that he who is wise will count the cost before a commitment is made. Jesus never suggested that the cost of discipleship is too high; rather he appeals to the highest sense of dedication from those who choose to call him Lord.

Frank Bishop is pastor, North Winona Church, Winona.



Bishop

Corinth (Leake): July 24-29; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Lee Hudson, Freney, evangelist; Mark Jones, Trinity, music; Paul Sanders, pastor.

Coopersville, Morton: July 24-29; Sunday, 6:45 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m.; evangelist, Hardy R. Denham Jr., North Long Beach, Long Beach; music evangelist, Wendell Wiggins, Brandon; LaVerne Summerlin, pastor.

Antioch (Jasper): July 24-29; Gary White, Sandhill (Greene), preacher; Gene Laton, Bay Springs, music; Sunday, 11 a.m.; lunch served at church; 1:45 p.m., evening service; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Carey Bass, pastor.

Spring Hill (Copiah): July 24-27; homecoming, July 24; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; lunch, fellowship hall, noon; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Bob Lynch, McComb, evangelist; Blake Scafield, music director, Spring Hill, music; James A. Hurt, pastor.

Fairfield, Moselle: July 24-27; services, Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 nightly; Billy Crosby, evangelist; Robert Fortenberry, pastor.

Liberty, Flowood: July 24-July 29; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; dinner on the grounds; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Perry Clifton Perkins, Sr., preacher; Bill Clark, music; Bobby C. Waggoner, pastor.

Riverside, Waynesboro: July 24-29; Donnie Guy, full-time evangelist, Biloxi, guest preacher; Greg Smith, music; regular services, Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:00 p.m.; M. H. Waltmon, pastor.

New Bethlehem (Simpson): July 24-29; Sunday services, 11 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon service; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 nightly; Glen Kelly, pastor, Oak Grove, Mendenhall, guest speaker; Larry White, director of music, New Bethlehem, music; Jimmy Sellers, pastor.

First, Vaiden: July 24-29; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 10:45 a.m. and 7:45 p.m.; J. B. Costilow, Newton, evangelist; Sandy Land, Durant, music director; Leon Holly, pastor.

First, Cleveland: July 24-27; Earl C. Davis, pastor, First, Memphis, Tenn., evangelist; Dwayne and Brenda Sims, music; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 12:15 p.m. and 7 p.m.; lunch served Mon.-Wed. 11:30 and 12:15 (\$1.00); Jim Street, pastor.

First, Kosciusko: July 24-28; Gerald Harris, pastor, Colonial Heights, Jackson, evangelist; Dick Barrett, music evangelist, Bremen, Ga., music; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 12:20-12:55 and 7:30 p.m.; L. Edward Gandy, pastor.

First, Lambert: July 24-27; Bill Fuller, pastor, Woodland Hills, Jackson, evangelist; Mrs. Kathryn Barfield, Yazoo City, music evangelist; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., Mon.-Wed., noon (lunch served at the church each day), and 7:30 p.m.; J. Courtney Selvy, pastor.

Providence (Bolivar): July 24-29; 7 nightly; Jerry Swimmer, full time evangelist, Iuka, Eugene Walden, pastor.

Pleasant Home, Laurel: July 24-27; Eddie Bryant, pastor, Tucker's Crossing, evangelist; Lynn Evans, minister of music and youth, Pleasant Home, music; Sunday School, 9:45, morning worship, 11 with dinner on the grounds to follow in fellowship hall; day's activities will conclude with afternoon service at 1; Mon.-Wed., 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Jimmy McFatter, pastor.

Union, Roxie: July 24-29, homecoming (July 24) and revival; services, 10 a.m. and 7:30 nightly; John Hudson, pastor, preaching; Tim Hudson, New Hebron, music; the church will be selling fish plates July 16 to raise money for building fund; Vacation Bible School had 58 in average attendance.

Unity (Montgomery) east of Duck Hill: July 24-30; 7:30 nightly; Phillip Potter, evangelist; Karl Moyers, pastor; Arlete Moyers, special music.

Bissell, Tupelo: July 24-27; Sunday services, 7 p.m., Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Robert Shirley, retired pastor, Parkway, Tupelo, evangelist; Adron Horne, pastor.

First, Fannin: July 24-27; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Sun.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Carl Duck, preaching; Bill Clark, music director; Fred Tarpley, pastor.

Branch Church (Scott): July 31-Aug. 3; Glen Davis, evangelist; Jeff Hardy, music evangelist; Sun. at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. plus dinner on the grounds; Mon.-Wed. 7:30 p.m.; nursery provided; Dexter E. Ware, interim pastor.

Old Hebron, New Hebron, (Jeff Davis): July 24-29; Robert Dunn, pastor, Dublin, Prentiss, evangelist; Phillip Willis, Baton Rouge, La., music evangelist; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 8 a.m., and 7:30 p.m.; lunch served at church at noon Sunday; L. C. Anthony, pastor.

Antioch (Rankin): July 24-29; homecoming, July 24; Sunday services, Sunday School, 10 a.m., worship service, 11 a.m., Vic Bowman, guest speaker; followed with dinner on the grounds; 7 p.m., Sunday; services during the week, 10:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rickey Kennedy, Meadow Grove, Brandon, evangelist; Tim Robertson, music; Larry Duncan, pastor.

Gore Springs (Grenada): July 24-29; Everette Martin, pastor, evangelist; Hollis Ishee, Grenada, music; morning services, 10:30; 7:30 nightly.

Macedonia, Petal: July 24-28; Sunday, 11 a.m., dinner in fellowship hall following morning service; 7:30 nightly; John Merck, full time evangelist, Easley, S.C., speaker; Dallas Rayborn, Hurricane Creek, music; Jerry Doggett, pastor.

Spring Hill (Marshall): July 24-29; services, Sun., 11 a.m. and 6 p.m., with supper to follow; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 nightly; Ron Pledger, Commerce, Ga., evangelist; Kevin Pledger, Commerce, Ga., music and ventriloquist; Mrs. Ron Pledger, special music.

### Homecoming

Springfield, Rt. 8, Natchez: homecoming, Sunday, 11 a.m. July 31; J. C. Graves, former pastor, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds following morning service; Charles Heltman, interim pastor.



# Pollard: "The word of God doesn't need defending"

By Jim Lowry

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — Southern Baptists must not reduce their faith to any object, even God's Holy word, Frank Pollard warned in a sermon at the Baptist conference center here.

"In these pharisaical days when people are looking for liberals more than the lost, I want to say to you I am an inerrantist," proclaimed Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.

Biblical inerrancy has been a focus of the 10-year controversy in the Southern Baptist Convention. Whether theology or politics is the basis of disagreement also has been debated as have terms used to describe the two sides.

Pollard, former president of Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, Calif., has not often spoken publicly regarding problems in the denomination.

"I believe the Bible is God's word, but it is not the living Word of God," he explained. "Jesus Christ is the living Word of God. The Bible is God's spoken word."

"We simply must never reduce our faith to a book, not even God's holy book," he said. "When you do that, you begin to become superstitious about the Bible. You begin to try to defend it. The word of God doesn't need defending. It is God's holy word. We're supposed to proclaim it, not defend it."

Pollard said he sat down with a leader of the conservative movement in the convention a few days ago. "The

first thing he asked was, 'As a leader of the moderate faction in our denomination, how do you feel about what is happening?'" Pollard reported.

"I said, 'Look, friend, I detest the word moderate,'" he continued. "I am not a moderate. I'm as conservative as you or anyone you know. But I will not be involved in your politics."

"I have never attended a meeting, and I would never take the time God has given me or spend the money of salary or gifts to the kingdom trying to enthrone or dethrone anyone," Pollard said. "I do not believe the issue in our denomination is inerrancy. I think it is integrity. I do not believe the solution is politics. I believe politics is the problem."

"I don't usually talk about things in our denomination," he said. "It doesn't do good things for my spirit."

Concerning biblical authority and pastoral authority, Pollard said: "I think the word of God is the authority, and the preacher speaks with authority when he is speaking the word of God. He does not speak with authority when he is not speaking the word of God."

"I believe the pulpit in our tradition is in the middle of where we worship, not an ark, because God comes alive when his word is preached. The word of God becomes his way to speak to us," he continued.

Pollard also spoke a word of support for the local church as "the best and most effective way to serve our Lord

and God."

In his opinion, people who give money to televangelists or parachurch groups instead of the local church are "looking for a cheap and easy way to express their faith. The church is the hardest way to serve the Lord, because they check the roll every Sunday and keep an accounting of stewardship. It's God's way of getting his work done."

Pollard was the preacher for the week at the annual Bible preaching/administration conference sponsored by the church administration department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

Jim Lowry writes for the Sunday School Board.



## Faces and places

by Anne Washburn McWilliams



### Vacation diary

July 1: Routine bores me. I'm ready for a vacation. I've been reading about a man who walked across Borneo. Even that sounds intriguing. Except for the leeches. Grandpa Washburn in 95 years never traveled more than 50 miles from his birthplace. But like the writer, Isabelle Eberhardt, I can't imagine how it would be "not to feel the torturing need to know and see for oneself what is there, beyond the mysterious blue wall of the horizon, ..."

July 4: When we stopped at a mall in Montgomery Saturday to call my niece, Karen, and ask directions to her new house, the rain came. I knew it always rains on first day of my vacation. Why didn't I take it sooner?

Yesterday at County Line Church we sang "My country 'tis of thee, land of the noble free, thy name I love." Today I celebrated America's birthday eating tomato sandwiches and watermelon at the Georgia Welcome Center at West Point beside the Chattahoochee. My mother lives in Alabama and my sister lives in Georgia, so we compromised and met for a picnic at the state line.

July 6: Yesterday Mama and I visited my cousin, Nell Sherrer, who fell down some steps in May and broke her hip and wrist. Her plight awakened in me a gratitude that I can use my right hand.

Today we had another family picnic, this time in Mama's back yard, to celebrate Karen's birthday. A strong wind swung the limbs of the huge pecan tree. W.D. and I set the red table

under the tree while Mama scalded the tea. Karen tried to light the portable grill to cook hamburgers but the wind kept blowing out the match flame. My sister, Betty, and I got cold and moved the table into the sunshine. In the kitchen her daughter, Luann, lighted the candles for the birthday cake so that Heather and Holly, 2, (and not the wind), could blow them out. In mid-afternoon we ate a freezerful of homemade ice cream.

During supper time, the lights went out. An hour or two later, as we waited by candlelight, repairmen found a broken power line that the wind had tangled in limbs of the apple and pecan trees. As those men high on a crane lopped off enormous limbs from our precious trees, Mama and I cringed as if they were cutting off our own limbs! I walked away from the workmen to the front steps and sat down in the dark to look at the stars, like gems against black velvet. This is where Daddy and I used to sit when he would point out to me the Big Dipper and the Milky Way. I soaked up solitude.

July 7: W.D. and I got up at 5 a.m. so we could "help" to take Holly and Heather to the zoo in Atlanta. About 8 o'clock in Hogansville, at Betty's house in the woods, we saw a turtle standing by the cats' bowl, drinking water with the cats. At the zoo, Heather liked seeing the flamingoes duck their heads underwater, as she did while taking swimming lessons. Holly and I watched the polar bear "take a bath." When we left she said,

"Bye, bye, bear, Be back in a minute."

July 8: I temporarily forgot my resolution never again to go to mountains or seashore in July without room reservations. W.D. and Mama and I thought we'd spend a night in a cabin at Cheaha, Alabama's highest point. "Sorry, no room," they said. Since I didn't want to go back home, we ate supper at the lodge restaurant while we looked out across the wilderness of the Talladega National Forest and I gazed longingly at the bright blue swimming pool.

Ten miles back down the hill, Shinbone Country Inn (bed and breakfast) looked great to me — restaurant on the porch, patchwork quilts on beds, private decks adjoining some rooms. But I knew Mama couldn't sleep on a roll-away bed. And the steep stairs would be hard to negotiate.

When we were too tired even to care any more, we stopped at an economy-sized motel and spent the night swatting flies. You know, I've noticed that it takes such hard times to make the most unforgettable memories! And family times together are made for storing up memories.

July 8: After all, I didn't need to take such a long trip to find variety. God divided the day from the night and made both sunlight and starlight. And what a variety of animals and birds and plants he made! People are as different as snowflakes from each other. I only needed time to sit down and think about the kaleidoscope he provided all around me.

## Concern over film . . .

(Continued from page 8)

dable points," he said. "For me, the film focuses on the struggle of Jesus to do the will of God. He does it, but it is painful for him."

"(The biblical book of) Hebrews tells us Jesus was tempted in all ways like we are. In the film, Jesus never questioned his Sonship and is aware from the beginning he is unique. In several places he asks why he can't have a normal life, marry and have children. He is reluctantly willing to bear the burden. Nobody could be very excited about dying on a cross."

Maddox added the movie contains nudity and fairly explicit sex scenes, particularly a dream sequence in which Jesus is tempted to come down off the cross, save himself, marry Mary Magdalene and have children.

The church-state separation specialist was told of Wildmon's claim the more objectionable parts had been deleted from the rough cut shown July 12. "There is enough in this for Christians to be concerned, but not enough to picket or go into orbit," Maddox said. "But if it was skewed or material was deleted, I would be very mad that I had been used in that way."

A spokesman for Universal Studios in Hollywood declined to answer specific questions about the movie, particularly if two versions exist. In-

stead, he read a statement from Universal Pictures and Ceneplex Odeon Films.

The statement says filmmaker Scorsese "expects to deliver the finished film . . . in mid-August" and adds the movie will be released in the fall.

The statement also says: "In the last few days, some fundamentalist leaders have attacked the film, stating clearly that their goal is to have the film destroyed. These individuals declined an invitation to see the film and consequently what they are saying is inaccurate and exaggerated."

"The filmmaker deeply believes that this film is a religious affirmation of faith."

The statement adds: "In America, we have a long tradition of freedom of the press, speech and religion. Each individual has a right to express his own religious beliefs through books, film and art. The opponents of this film are calling for its destruction. This is censorship."

"People have a right to choose for themselves whether or not to see this movie and to form their own opinions about it. Universal Pictures and Ceneplex Odeon Films stand behind the principle of freedom of expression and hope that the American public will give the film and the filmmaker a fair chance."



## Book reviews

**Pardoned to be Priests**, by J. Gerald Harris; Broadman Publishing Company, Nashville, 168 pages, \$7.95; paperback

J. Gerald Harris is pastor of Colonial Heights Church, Jackson. The subtitle of his book is "Sermons on the priesthood of the believer." The foreword is by W. A. Criswell, pastor of First Church, Dallas.

This is a compilation of nine sermons preached at Colonial Heights Church. The publication of the book was timely due to the heightened interest in the doctrine of the priesthood of the believer because of the adoption of a resolution by the Southern Baptist Convention last month that speaks to the doctrine.

The nine sermons, and thus the chapter headings, are The Consecration of Priests; The Sin of Nadab and Abihu; The Mysterious Melchizedek; Christ, our Superior Priest; Entering into the Holiest; The Priest and his Portable Temple; The Believer-Priest and the Word of God; The Believer-Priest and Prayer; and The Believer-Priest and Pastoral Authority.

An autograph party is scheduled for July 21 at the Baptist Book Store in Jackson for author Harris and this book.

The author is a very good writer, the book reflects his ability. Because of the current interest in the priesthood of the believer doctrine, interest in the book should be high. — DTM

## Columbus will host weekday ed clinic

An area church weekday education clinic will be held Aug. 9 at First Church, Columbus, sponsored by the Church Administration and Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Julius Thompson, director of the department, said that the purpose of

the clinic would be to "provide a one-day session to share information and new ideas with workers and to provide training."

The fee for the clinic will be \$15, which will cover the cost of materials to be distributed and lunch, Thompson said. The fee will be refundable if

cancellation is received before Aug. 1, the deadline for registration, Thompson added.

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Shirley Oglesby, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or calling her at 968-3800.



# Mission Gifts Of Mississippi Baptist Churches Thru Convention Board

**Jan. 1, 1988-June 30, 1988**[illegible]



# Mississippi Baptist Churches True Convention Board

Jan. 1, 1988-June 30, 1988

Assn. Miss. Designated. WMU & All				Assn. Miss. Designated. WMU & All				Assn. Miss. Designated. WMU & All				Assn. Miss. Designated. WMU & All					
Co-op		Other		Total		Co-op		Other		Total		Co-op		Other		Total	
MT VERNON	3,050.00	1,000.00	4,050.00	HOPE	350.00	1,250.00	1,600.00	RETHEL	20.00	157.00	177.00	D LU	1,420.00	1,000.00	2,420.00	3,000.00	
NEW MOORE	5,040.00	4,370.00	9,410.00	LAUREL HILL	612.30	1,020.00	1,632.30	BREWER	1,437.92	3,349.08	4,787.00	DRY CREEK	2,772.30	2,000.00	4,772.30	4,800.00	
OLD UNION	3,587.50	1,143.70	4,731.20	LINWOOD	4,022.75	4,330.33	8,353.08	CALVARY	3,711.00	1,000.00	4,711.00	EASTSIDE	2,772.30	2,000.00	4,772.30	4,800.00	
PALM BEACH	1,511.72	376.00	1,887.72	LONGVIEW	600.00	800.00	1,400.00	EASTSIDE	1,000.00	101.50	1,101.50	FAITH	1,900.00	1,000.00	2,900.00	3,000.00	
PARKWAY	10,130.28	7,686.53	17,816.81	MT OLIVE	750.00	750.00	1,500.00	FBC AUGUSTA	3,682.80	371.10	4,053.90	FBC BRAXTON	25,033.20	10,120.70	35,153.90	35,200.00	
PLANTERSVILLE	3,446.86	2,603.12	6,050.00	NEARBY	4,810.00	1,472.00	6,282.00	FBC RICHMOND	10,857.16	10,509.62	21,366.78	FBC WAGNER	1,742.44	1,900.10	3,642.54	3,700.00	
PRICEVILLE	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	NEW BETHLEHEM	267.13	267.13	534.26	FBC RUMBLESTOWN	2,475.93	3,380.50	5,856.43	FBC WENDENHALL	2,775.67	2,401.90	5,177.57	5,200.00	
RICHMOND	3,186.37	1,103.97	4,290.34	NEW BLACK JACK	531.84	150.00	681.84	GOOSE CREEK	4,880.00	207.00	5,087.00	GOODWATER	7,275.67	6,401.90	13,677.57	13,700.00	
SHERRILL	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	NEW PLEASANTDALE	3,878.00	1,000.00	4,878.00	INDIAN SPRINGS	3,535.34	3,750.00	7,285.34	GUM SPRINGS	3,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
SKYLINE TUNNEL	100.00	100.00	200.00	NORTH CALVARY	621.00	1,350.50	1,971.50	JANICE	1,000.00	575.00	1,575.00	HARRISVILLE	3,000.00	1,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
SOUTHERN HEIGHTS	29,176.56	10,426.62	39,603.18	PEACH CREEK	1,400.00	3,600.00	5,000.00	MEMORIAL	1,882.10	861.04	2,743.14	HOLLY GROVE	3,390.00	1,800.00	5,190.00	5,200.00	
UNION CHURCH	27,131.75	414,110.61	441,242.36	PINE GROVE	387.00	1,000.00	1,387.00	SEMINARY	1,740.00	204.00	1,944.00	JUPITER	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
W JACKSON STREET	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	SALE	1,372.44	1,000.00	2,372.44	THOMPSON HILL	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	MACDONIA	2,390.00	4,330.81	6,720.81	6,700.00	
LEFLORE				SAND HILL	325.00	275.00	600.00	PICK				NEW BETHLEHEM	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
CALVARY	5,000.00	4,000.00	9,000.00	SARVIS	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	BALA CHITTO	431.27	597.25	1,028.52	NEW MOORE	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
FBC GREENWOOD	1,350.00	1,350.00	2,700.00	SPEARS CREEK	6,343.94	7,400.00	13,743.94	BEAUFORT	805.21	1,045.26	1,850.47	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
FBC ITA BENA	1,350.00	1,350.00	2,700.00	TRINITY	1,705.00	880.00	2,585.00	BOGUE CHITTO	2,669.29	1,405.70	4,075.00	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
FBC MINTER CITY	7,007.33	6,364.62	13,371.95	WEST PHILADELPHIA	834.00	1,177.00	2,011.00	CALVARY	19,372.00	9,589.81	28,961.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
IMMANUEL	500.00	210.00	710.00	WHITE OAK	408.00	1,000.00	1,408.00	CALVARY	7,425.00	12,685.18	20,110.18	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
MORGAN CITY	2,738.57	1,506.75	4,245.32	NEW CHOCTAW				CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
MT VERNON	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CORINTH	200.00	172.41	372.41	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
NORTH GREENWOOD	1,400.00	1,400.00	2,800.00	DAVID	200.00	172.41	372.41	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
PHILLIPSTON	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	MACDONIA	70.00	262.07	332.07	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
RIVERSIDE	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	MT ZION	70.00	262.07	332.07	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
SCHLATER	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	PEARL BLUFF COMMUNITY	100.00	100.00	200.00	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
UNION	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	PINE RIVER	100.00	100.00	200.00	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
LINCOLN				NEWTON				CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
ARLINGTON	2,455.68	4,410.33	6,866.01	BEAT LINE	766.00	1,346.17	2,112.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
BETHLEHEM	2,455.68	4,410.33	6,866.01	BETHLEHEM	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
BIG SPRINGS	375.00	346.47	721.47	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
BROOKLYN	661.93	305.00	966.93	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
CALVARY	3,526.46	2,212.36	5,738.82	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
CLEAR BRANCH	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
CUMMINGS	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
EAST LAMAR	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
EAST LAMAR	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
FBC BETHLEHEM	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	
FRIENDSHIP	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	CALVARY	700.00	1,346.17	2,046.17	CALVARY	8,525.00	9,589.81	18,114.81	NEW ZION	2,000.00	2,000.00	4,000.00	4,	



# Mission Gifts Of Mississippi Baptist Churches Thru Convention Board

Jan. 1, 1988-June 30, 1988

Assn. Miss. Designated, WMU & All				Assn. Miss. Designated, WMU & All				Assn. Miss. Designated, WMU & All				Assn. Miss. Designated, WMU & All			
Co-op		Other	Total	Co-op		Other	Total	Co-op		Other	Total	Co-op		Other	Total
CALVARY	10,634.40	4,300.41	14,934.81	FBC CHICORA	752.38	519.42	1,271.80	CALVARY	1,074.41	735.42	1,809.83	EDGEWORTH	100.00	730.40	830.40
FBC VICKSBURG	83,169.72	57,242.15	140,411.87	FBC CLARA	5,132.68	3,847.84	8,980.52	CAMP GROUND	2,894.50	2,421.11	5,315.61	FBC EUPORA	19,166.05	20,426.07	39,592.12
GRACE	1,140.24	1,001.71	2,141.95	FBC STATE LINE	4,615.58	4,360.16	8,975.74	CLEAR SPRINGS	1,000.00	1,250.00	2,250.00	FBC MATRISTON	8,744.17	5,891.13	14,635.30
HIGHLAND	16,885.18	4,310.21	21,195.39	FBC WAYNESBURG	29,338.52	48,202.68	77,541.20	CLAM	615.00	260.00	875.00	FELLOWSHIP	600.00	3,327.00	3,927.00
IMMANUEL	8,836.25	3,152.10	11,988.35	MIAMI	462.03	.00	462.03	FBC COFFEYVILLE	17,091.08	14,047.25	31,138.33	HEBON	848.46	4,311.00	5,159.46
NORTHSIDE	4,138.16	600.00	4,738.16	MT ZION	1,223.42	2,886.70	4,110.12	FBC WATER VALLEY	1,455.00	74,298.00	75,753.00	LOLLANS GROVE	1,072.38	844.64	1,917.02
RIDGEWAY	480.85	91.00	571.85	PLEASANT GROVE	7,200.51	4,013.16	11,213.67	FRIENDSHIP	80.00	50.00	130.00	MARTEL	4,074.50	16,421.00	20,495.50
SOUTHSIDE	1,490.26	844.58	2,334.84	RIVERSIDE	3,604.65	1,735.00	5,339.65	HOPEWELL	35.00	130.00	165.00	MURTEVISTA	100.00	50.00	150.00
TRINITY	10,641.00	3,335.85	14,176.85	STRENGTHFORD	1,723.16	1,026.16	2,749.32	HOPEWELL	90.00	140.00	230.00	NEW HOPE	600.15	4,097.31	4,697.46
WATERSIDE	3,648.00	2,401.92	6,049.92	TRINITY	2,310.31	6,386.25	8,696.56	C TUCKALOPE	1,077.13	1,574.89	2,652.02	PHILADELPHIA	1,165.00	1,137.00	2,302.00
WOODLAWN	28,276.15	3,869.92	32,146.07	WATER OAK	2,310.31	312.51	2,622.82	PIKE GROVE	270.00	1,081.12	1,351.12	PILGRIM REST	1,000.00	1,300.00	2,300.00
	215,434.14	101,706.68	317,140.82	WEST SHADY GROVE	1,047.23	1,684.74	2,731.97	SECUND	1,140.33	1,210.00	2,350.33	REGLIS CHAPEL	600.00	1,000.00	1,600.00
				ZION REST	41,903.41	78.00	41,981.41	SEVIL RENA	1,140.33	1,210.00	2,350.33	SAPA	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
						56,325.79	177,427.00	TILLATODA	1,140.33	1,210.00	2,350.33	TURNHOLEN	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00
								WATERSIDE	47,882.53	104,340.79	152,223.32	UNION	679.50	1,784.81	2,464.31
												WALTHALL	1,000.00	893.25	1,893.25
												WEST SHADY GROVE	47,417.06	73,169.24	120,586.30
								</							

## Names in the news



George and Margaret Howard Rogers celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on July 10 at Salem Baptist Church, Collins. Members of Salem Church all of their married lives, they have been active in all phases of church activities. He has served faithfully as a deacon and she as an adult Sunday School teacher. A reception was hosted by their children and spouses: Martha and Terrell Tisdale, Bettye and Tom Coward, Bill and Amanda Rogers; and their four grandchildren.

New Orleans Seminary recipients for the Outstanding Student Awards were Caron Renee Coram, of Tampa Fla., representing the associate of divinity degree program; Edward Steve Wegmann Jr., of Tampa Fla., representing the master of religious education degree program; Vernon



Burris Aubrey Thornton, of Gadsden, Ala., representing the master of church music degree program; Michael W. Olewski, of Titusville, Fla., representing the master of divinity degree program; and Thomas Enos Burris, pictured, of Magnolia, Miss., recipient of the Broadman Seminarian Award, representing the master of divinity degree program. Burris holds the BA degree from USM. Students were chosen on the basis of excellence evidenced to an uncommon degree in personal and spiritual qualities, academic achievements, and professional promise.

Sand Hill Church, Greene Association, has ordained its new pastor, Gary White, who is attending New Orleans Seminary. Paul Crocker, pastor of Avera Church, William Clawson of Hattiesburg, and David Grayson, pastor of Cedar Grove, and several deacons participated in the ordination service.

Daniel Paul Edney took top academic honors as he and three fellow William Carey College graduates received medical degrees in spring graduation at the University of Mississippi School of Medicine. Edney, a former Student Government Association president at Carey, received the M.D. degree. Mary Elizabeth Clawson, daughter of William Clawson of the Carey faculty, and James A. Clement, Jr., also received medical doctor degrees. Andrew Jack Martineau received the Doctor of Dental Medicine degree.



Mrs. J. E. Williams "Miss Jo" was honored May 4 for the centennial program of the Kellum Day Circle of Woman's Missionary Union in Hernando Church, Hernando. She has been a member of WMU in Hernando Church since 1917. She was presented a WMU charm by Mrs. Charles B. Williams at the close of the meeting. There were 12 members present and one visitor.

NASHVILLE — Annie Sims, wife of W. Hines Sims, retired director of the church music department at the Baptist Sunday School Board, died Friday, July 8, after an extended illness. She was 80. Born Feb. 20, 1908 in Meridian, Miss., she was the daughter of the late Wiley Bush Brown and Mary Alice Brown. She was a 1927 summa cum laude graduate of Centenary College of Louisiana in Shreveport.

She taught in Louisiana public schools until 1945 and in Nashville schools until 1970. She was head of the Latin department at Montgomery Bell Academy in Nashville.

Following their retirements in 1970, the Simses moved to Florida where he continued music work with local churches and she assisted and supported his work. They returned to Nashville in 1986.

Tim Floyd was recently licensed to preach the gospel by the Good Hope Church of Rt. 1, Batesville.



Evergreen Church, Winston Association recently ordained Clayton Sinclair as a deacon. Pictured, left to right, are Roger McCully, chairman of deacons, Sinclair, and Leonard D. Howell, pastor.

Gaston Smith, chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Physics at William Carey College, is one of 25 college mathematics teachers from across the United States given grants to participate in the 1988 Faculty Advancement in Mathematics study program, on the Virginia Commonwealth University campus in Richmond. The program is sponsored by the Consortium for Mathematics and Its Applications, Inc. Grants are funded by the National Science Foundation.



Westwood Church, Lauderdale Association recently honored its pastor, W. Buford Usry, and his wife Delores, for their 20 years of service to the church with a reception and a "roast" of the pastor. The Usrys were presented a monetary gift and a plaque commemorating their 20 years at Westwood.

## PASSION PLAY 1990



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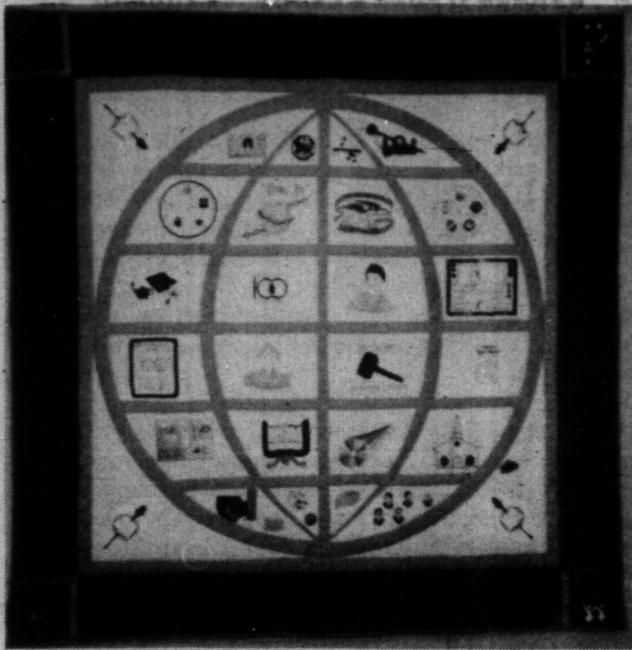
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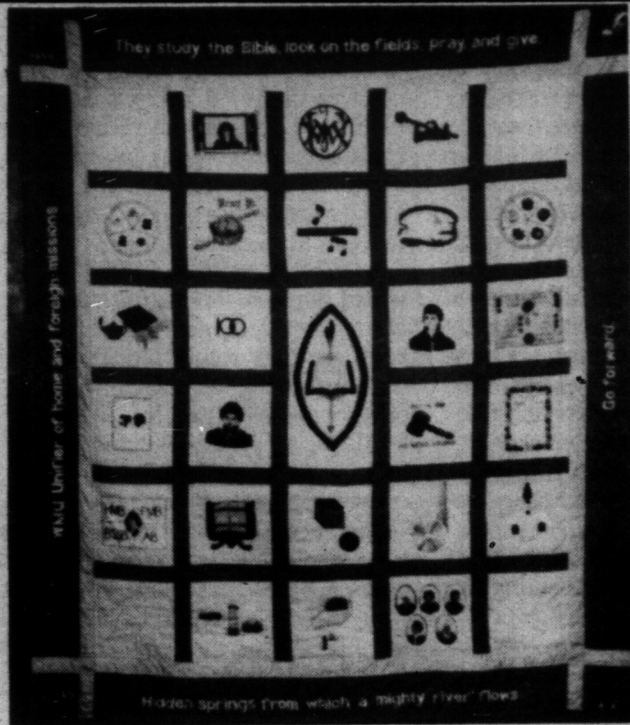
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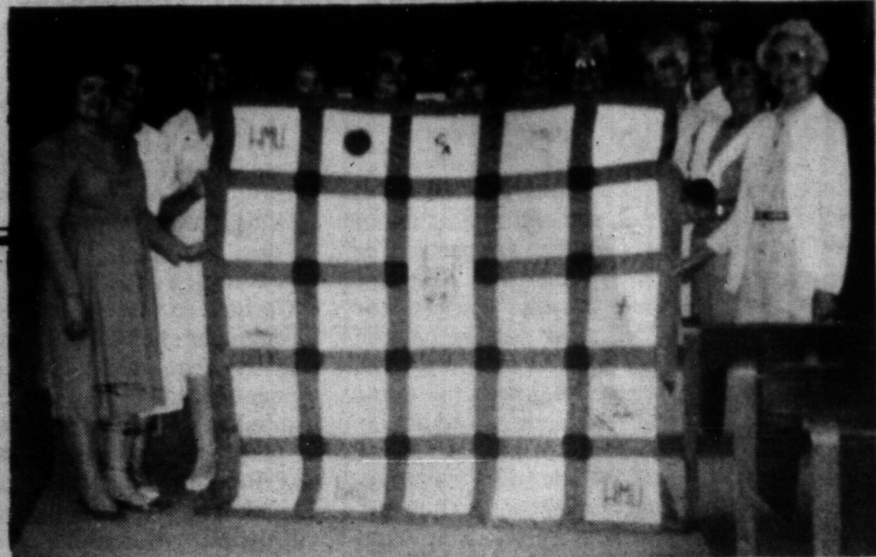


The **WMU Centennial Quilt** was made and quilted by Baptist Women and other women of **Bunker Hill Church**. It will be put into a display case in the church. During a churchwide celebration on May 22, a message, "Women of the Kingdom" was brought by the pastor, Robert Sanderson. The WMU Centennial Hymn was sung by Diane Wilks. A program was presented by age level groups. Many wore period costumes. The church's oldest former WMU president, Mrs. Georgia Lou Shivers, was recognized. Decorations in Fellowship Hall consisted of household items from the past. Birthday cake with Centennial logo was served with homemade ice cream. Amy Sanderson is WMU director; Imogene Robbins was Centennial chairman.

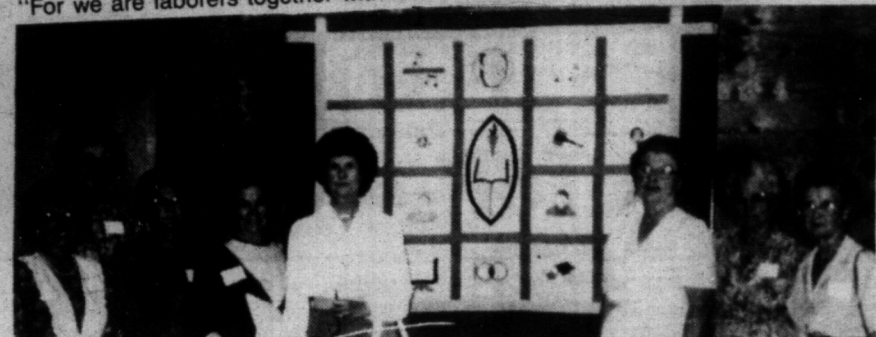
## Just for the Record



Women of **Short Creek Church, Yazoo County**, completed their WMU centennial quilt in April of 1988. It measures 91 x 77.



Baptist Women of **Big Creek Church, Wayne County**, on May 22 dedicated a quilt which they had made to celebrate 100th birthday of WMU. They gave it to the church to be hung in the fellowship hall, in remembrance of their labor of love. Mrs. Sue Mills, Baptist Women president, led in the dedication service, using 1 Cor. 3:9, "For we are laborers together with God."



**Phalti Church** displayed their centennial quilt at the Covington-Jeff Davis Association WMU centennial celebration May 15. The quilt will be presented to the church and hung in the fellowship hall. Three of their Baptist Women were recognized as 80 years of age or older at the celebration. They are Lozelle Parish, Lucille Parish, and Lura Lee Parish. All three were present. Baptist Women pictured left to right are Nancy Parish, WMU director, Edna Gibson, Nannie Thompson, Bobbie Garner, Jackie Polk, Annette Magee, Lura Lee Parish, and Amanda Hutto. Those members not pictured are Lozelle Parish, Lucille Parish, Lou Ella Easterling.



"Living Waters," the BSU ensemble from Northwest Community College, Senatobia, concluded its year, May 8, with a concert at the First Church, Abbeville. Since September 1987, Living Waters performed 37 concerts, all within the 11 county district of Northwest C.C. In the past four years, Living Waters has performed 125 concerts, primarily in Baptist churches. The concert schedule began when they performed at the BSU State Convention, in September. In May of this year, Living Waters performed at the Tate County Heritage Museum's open house. One of the highlights of the year came in late March when Living Waters performed at the National Junior College Athletic Association's women's national tournament. Northwest has been the site for the women's national tournament for the past six years. This was the last national tournament to be held at Northwest as the tournament will move to Texas for three years beginning in 1989. This was the first year that Living Waters has performed at the tournament. They were used to provide entertainment between ball games played on Tuesday of the tournament. Members of Living Waters for 1987-88 were; (front, from left) Kerry Mitchell, Hernando; Karon White, Marks; Lisa West, Senatobia; Gayle Herron, Coldwater. (Back, left to right), Allen Spencer, Senatobia; Greg Murphree, Batesville; Cary Mettatal, Sardis; Scott Brooks, Pope; and Rob Ray, Oxford.

**Lynn Ray Road Church, Petal**, will kick off the building fund for the construction of its new building with a "Give It All Sunday and Old Fashioned Day" July 31. Morning services will be followed with dinner on the grounds. Pastors are Emmett Boone and Bill Partridge.



**First Church, Quiltman**, held a Missions Recognition Service on May 18 with 66 boys and girls and 24 leaders being recognized for their accomplishments. Children were presented attendance awards as well as recognition for having completed the required learning activities.

Director Debbie Reeves introduced leaders Leisa Dabbs, Teresa Robinson, Beth Griffin, Beverly Seaton, Rosemary Palmer, and Jo Slay who had worked with children ages three, four, and five.

A choral reading workshop has been scheduled for July 29 and 30 at Roseberry Piano House in Hattiesburg. Music from five companies will be reviewed, according to Marcia Roseberry, of the sponsoring company. The clinicians will include Jim Hayes, minister of music at First Church, Hattiesburg, and Robert Goodman, minister of music at Temple Church, Hattiesburg. A fee will be charged.

**Salem Church of Collins** has published a cookbook titled Dinner on the Grounds, according to Gwen Hitt, the cookbook chairman for the church. Mrs. Hitt said that there are 263 recipes from 135 cooks in the book. The book was published as a publicity piece "to encourage participation in the church's sanctuary renovation fund drive," she said. She noted that

to date more than \$60,000 of the \$94,000 goal has been raised.

**First Church, Lucedale**, had Vacation Bible School, June 20-24. The total enrollment was 403, (children, youth, and adults), with seven professions of faith, and an offering of \$320.13. Mrs. Dolores Walker was director. John L. Walker is pastor.

An all-night "lock-in" scheduled to follow the annual Mississippi Baptist Youth Night Aug. 5 will be held at a Flowood skating rink and fast food restaurant. Ron Martin, owner of the Lakeland Skating Center and Dairy Queen, said the activities would begin at 10 p.m. and continue until 7 a.m. Aug. 6. The doors will be locked at midnight, Martin said. A Mississippi group, Immanuel will entertain, Martin noted. There will be a fee.

Girls in Action, composed of girls in grades one through six, were under the supervision of Vallery Temple and leaders C. J. Patton, Janice Redmond, Benita Thigpen, Ruby Bonner, Carolyn Hennington, Eva Martin, Patsy Brock, Joye Combest, Dianne Sellers, and Verlynn Robinson.

John Gary Riley as Royal Ambassador Director was assisted by Libby Riley, John Harrison, Keith Palmer, Gifford Dabbs, and Robert Pepper.

## Letter To The Editor

(Continued from page 7)

Dear editor, please be objective in your writing and please be careful not to make off the cuff remarks such as your beginning paragraph of June 23. Your readers who are not abreast of what is going on would have to feel that we are about to declare dividends and each take our half of the pie and go our separate ways. The division, in our thinking, is certainly not in that proportion.

Walter H. Frederick  
Pastor, Calvary  
West Point

The statement was not that Southern Baptists are split down the middle, for I do not believe that they (or we) are. It very carefully pointed out that 95 percent of Southern Bap-

tists are basically the same in beliefs and that both Jerry Vines and Richard Jackson are in the 95 percent. It said that the people who attend Southern Baptist Conventions are split down the middle on leadership styles (not theology). It is not new. It has been thus for several years. It took only conversations with those whose candidate did not win to understand that they are discouraged, disillusioned, and frightened. On the other hand, there was a noisy celebration when the 50.5 percent winning tally was announced for the winner. That would seem to be division. It would seem that a more appropriate reaction would be sadness that we are still divided, even though the candidates were so much alike in theology. — Editor

## Holmesville will combine centennial with revival

Holmesville Church, McComb, age 100, will combine its centennial celebration with a July 24-27 revival meeting.

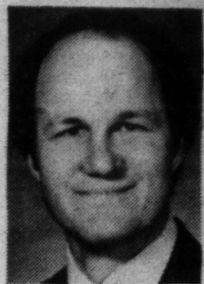
Visiting preacher will be James A. Bryant, a former pastor of Holmesville, now from Black Mountain, N.C. Kenny Peavy, pastor of Edna Church, Columbia, will lead the singing. Dinner will be served on the grounds July 24.

The church has published a brochure which contains its history. This will be available during the services, according to D. L. Callender, pastor.



# Repentance: Alternative to judgment

By Steve Odom  
Hosea 14:1-9



Odom

Repentance and regret. Here are two words which are too often confused and used as if they mean the same thing. Children are prone to do something that violates their parents' wishes and then, after getting caught, they say, "I'm sorry," and promptly repeat the same act. Of course, we adults are much more mature, aren't we? We are prone to express regret over an act that ruptured a relationship, and then begin to make plans on how to avoid getting caught next time!

Regret is only one step in the direction of repentance. Regret without repentance is the beginning of a vicious cycle of sin that will repeat itself until, like an amusement park ride off its axle, we tumble to destruction. Regret is weak medicine when it comes to the disease of sin. One dose of regret will ease the pain of sin, but only for a moment. And if we are not

## LIFE AND WORK

careful, we will become addicted to regret, seeking, from one sin to another, a "quick fix" to ease the pain while the disease keeps spreading.

We have ruptured our relationship to God through our choice of sin, and there is only one remedy that can adequately address the separation caused by our choice. Hosea has pointed us to the remedy in the last chapter of his prophetic pronouncement to a wayward nation. Remember the old song "School Days?" Doesn't it have something in it about "readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmetic?" Though all three of these components of education do not actually begin with the letter "r," they have come to be known as the "three r's of basic education." The nine verses in Chapter 14 of Hosea contain what might be called "The Three R's of Restoration." There is a way to restore the most important relationship we will ever have in our lives, our relationship with God.

There is only one way to break the habit of sin which separates us from God. It is the way

of repentance, the first "R" of restoration. Chapter 14 of Hosea allows us to eavesdrop on what a conversation between a wayward people and a wooing God might include. Verses 2-3 contain a request, a pledge, and a confession. This is not a prescribed formula for repentance. There is no such thing. We have models throughout the Bible for what repentance might include for an individual or a nation. One person's expression of repentance may not be exactly like another's, for our experiences of sin and our awareness of God are as varied as our individual personalities.

According to Hosea, repentance for Israel would begin in a request that God "take away all iniquity, and receive us graciously" (verse 2). Then they would pledge their devotion to God by vowing never again to trust in anyone or anything else. Finally, the nation would confess that they had orphaned themselves and their restoration to the family of God would come only in God's mercy (verse 3).

The second "R" of restoration is reconciliation (verses 4-7), when someone turns from his or her sin through repentance. God responds by

closing the gap, by restoring a relationship that he did not break. We are the ones who choose to create distance between God and us through choosing sin. God can then heal the break, but only if we allow him to reconcile us. We can be assured that whenever we choose to turn from our sin to God, he will refresh us (verse 5), strengthen us (verse 6), and protect us (verse 7).

The third "R" of restoration is renewal. Verse 8 tells us that the nature of God is one of renewal. This verse sounds like the renewal vows of a married couple who have experienced the ups and down of many years of a marriage relationship. Except here in Hosea, God has been utterly faithful to the relationship, and Israel has been the wayward partner. Given the one-sided quality of the relationship, God still stands ready to renew the bond of love whenever we decide to turn from our sin to him.

Repentance is the way of the wise that leads to reconciliation and renewal. It is the way of the Lord and the only alternative to judgment.

Steve Odom is pastor, University Church, Hattiesburg.

# Moses follows advice to share load with others

By Robert Earl Shirley  
Exodus 18



Shirley

On the occasion of Moses' meeting with his father-in-law at Horeb, he told him of all that had happened during the departure of his people from Egypt and how God had guided them and delivered them from their troubles and hardships since they had been in the wilderness. Jethro rejoiced at God's protection and blessed the Lord for his guidance. He wisely noted that Jehovah is "greater than all gods" and offered a sacrifice to the God of Israel.

Moses seems to have shared the feeling of many modern leaders that he and he alone could be depended on and was capable of doing the work that needed to be done. When the wise Jethro observed that his son-in-law worked without rest from morning until evening acting as judge for his followers, he asked him why this was so. Moses replied that it was because the people came to him with their problem seeking answers and guidance.

## UNIFORM

One can easily imagine that people so recently liberated from bondage would have untold difficulties adjusting to life in the wilderness. The nomadic routines would throw families together in an unfamiliar closeness and social relationships were certainly to be strained to the near breaking point. Instead of stressing the rights of the individual family, they would now have to give consideration to the group as a whole.

Moses' attitude and actions in shouldering all the responsibility was commendable and heroic but also foolish. He was a mere man like all other men so had his own weaknesses and limitations. He was guilty on one occasion of losing his temper and striking rather than speaking to a rock as God had commanded to get water for his complaining followers. Likewise, he was to grow weary, give in to fatigue, and lower his staff contrary to God's instructions in the battle against the Amalekites (Exodus 17).

Jethro warned that one could not hold up for

a long period of time under such sustained pressure, and if his son-in-law's health failed him, Moses would then be of no value to anyone at all. He also explained that when only one person did all the work, the people were needlessly forced to stand waiting in line for long periods of time. He further advised Moses to continue to do as he had been doing in the most important decisions but that he appoint others who would decide in the more trivial matters. Thus, a greater amount of work could be done with equal effectiveness in a shorter time than in the past.

Not just anyone was to be chosen, only those who were qualified to serve in the positions where they were needed. Because it was generally understood that one who served as a judge in settling disputes in that day would seek the guidance of the Lord, they were to be "able men" or those with great moral strength. They were to be God-fearing and religiously committed. As men of truth, they would be dependable and as those who hated unjust gain, they would be incapable of being bribed. True to the sage counsel that he had been given, Moses chose (Deuteronomy 1) subordinates who were wise, understanding, experienced, and respected.

These could decide in the civil cases where the law was specific leaving him to make a judgment in the weightier matters where no precedent had been established.

One of the greatest problems facing the organized church today is that of so-called "ministerial burnout." These are pastors who are physically exhausted and mentally and spiritually drained because they have felt that they and they alone have the total responsibility for the congregation they serve. Too many cannot, or will not, share that responsibility with the laity of their church. This is fair neither to the minister nor the people. Certainly it is not to his family. His load needs to be lessened, and each member of the congregation needs both the experience and the joy of serving where such an opportunity is afforded them.

We should not overlook the final words of Jethro spoken to Moses, "If you will do this and God so command you." The wise counsel had been given only as a suggestion. It was just as true then as it is now, that one is never to act at any time unless he can be certain that he is in the will of God.

Robert Earl Shirley is pastor emeritus, Parkway, Tupelo.

# Jesus teaches about the importance of priorities

By Frank H. Thomas Jr.  
Matthew 19:16-20:34



Thomas

Jesus was constantly reminding his disciples about their proper priorities. We find his teaching on priorities in Matthew 19 and 20. The first of these passages is entitled "The Rich Young Man;" interestingly enough, the original text says nothing about this one being young. The reference of his that he had followed the commandments from his youth up gives us the hint that perhaps he was indeed a young man. As such, he perhaps was doing as many of us have done and are doing; that is, trying to order properly life's priorities.

As he approached Jesus, he betrayed a lack of understanding of eternal life. He wondered what he needed to do in order to have eternal life.

Jesus began with this young man at the point of his understanding, as he does for most of us. This beginning point was the keeping of the commandments. As Jesus listed all of the commandments, the young man agreed that he had kept all of these. Nevertheless, having kept all

## BIBLE BOOK

of the commandments, he still found something lacking in his life. The true meaning of the young man's use of the term Master comes out in an ironic way here. He had referred to Jesus as Master or Teacher, but in reality something else was master of his life. These were his possessions which claimed the bulk of his attention. Jesus said that if the young man would change masters from his possessions to Jesus and truly follow Jesus, then he would have treasure in heaven. The irony continues that only as he gave away what he treasured, then would he have the true spiritual treasure which was in heaven. This example ends on a tragic note as the young man walks away from Jesus sorrowful because of his great possessions.

Jesus continued talking to his disciples, using hyperbole to make the point that those who had riches frequently made riches their priority, rather than the kingdom of God. Those who so ordered their priorities would find it impossible to enter the kingdom or to be saved. In amazement the disciples asked Jesus the question, "Who then is able to be saved?" In response to their question, Jesus admitted that mankind was unable to save himself but that

God was able to save all who turned to him.

Peter chimed in to say that the disciples had left all things and followed Jesus. Jesus replied to him that everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for his name's sake would receive a hundred times more and would inherit nothing physical but eternal life. Then he finished with the tantalizing statement that many who were first would be last and the last would be first.

This is the controlling thought in the next chapter and the parable of the workers in the vineyard. At first glance, this parable may seem to be terribly unfair to the faithful workers who started early in the morning and worked all day long. The master of the vineyard also hired workers in the middle of the day, in the afternoon, and in the late afternoon. When the time for payment of wages came, the householder instructed his steward to pay all of them the same wage.

This point illustrated once again Jesus' teaching that those who thought that they should be first would be last, and those who were last would be first. In God's economy as expressed by Jesus, everything was reversed. Of course, this refers to salvation and to one's spiritual standing in the kingdom of God. But

this does impact priorities, and we must remember that the last will be first and the first will be last.

In the context of these teachings on priorities, Jesus foretold a third time his death and resurrection. Flying in the face of this teaching was the request from the mother of James and John for her two sons to have the places of honor in the kingdom. Once again, here was an example of misplaced spiritual priorities.

Jesus taught that the rulers of the Gentiles lorded over them and their great ones exercised authority over them. In the Lord's kingdom this would not be so. Then he repeated the teaching that the first would be last and the last would be first. The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give himself a ransom for many.

The chapter closes with Jesus healing the blind men and this then serves as a symbol of those who understand the true priorities as those who have the true sight which comes only from the Lord. Jesus asked the blind men, "What do you wish that I should do for you?"

They said to him, "Lord, that our eyes may be opened." Let us be sure that the Lord's priorities are our own.

Frank H. Thomas is pastor, Alta Woods, Jackson.



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April 13, 1988 -

May 10, 1988

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Class, First Baptist  
Church, Greenwood  
Paul Porter  
Sunday School Class, Cliff  
Temple, Natchez  
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Julia



### Rev. and Mrs. Frank Bishop

### North Winona Baptist Church supports The Village

The North Winona Baptist Church, Montgomery Association is one of approximately 200 Southern Baptist churches that give more than \$1,000.00 annually to Village causes. According to Rev. Frank Bishop, pastor, the church has \$1,440.00 budgeted and during the month of May the people gave an additional \$1,230.00. The 1988 aggregate gifts total \$1,580.00.



# Baptist Record

## Seminary presidents multiply scope of McCarty's assignment

NASHVILLE (BP) — Doran C. McCarty, a former faculty member at both Golden Gate and Midwestern seminaries, will assume his full responsibilities Aug. 1 as executive director of the Southern Baptist Seminary External Education Division.

The six Southern Baptist seminary presidents, acting in their role as governing board of the division, have selected McCarty for the new duties.

Since January of 1988, McCarty has been coordinator of a pilot ministry education program in the Northeast cosponsored by the seminaries.

McCarty "will help the seminaries bring together two significant efforts in off-campus theological education," said Russell H. Dilday, president of Southwestern Seminary, and current chairman of the president's group.

"As executive director of the Seminary External Education Division, Dr. McCarty will be directing our

strong, established programs of seminary extension and seminary studies. In his work with the northeastern state conventions, he will be leading in the development of an entirely new model, yet one that will be in harmony with other ongoing efforts."

The pilot project to deliver ministry training in the Northeast is a cooperative project of the Baptist state conventions in the District of Columbia, Maryland/Delaware, New England, New York, and Pennsylvania/South Jersey, as well as the six seminaries and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Its goal will be to provide on-site ministry education opportunities "in context" for people in the northeast region.

McCarty was professor of ministry and director of the doctor of ministry program at Golden Gate Seminary for more than six years before accepting the current assignment. He also work-

ed 14 years on the faculty of Midwestern Seminary, where he became recognized as a specialist in field education.

While the program in the Northeast is in its infancy, McCarty will operate temporarily out of an office in New York City, with regular visits to the division's Nashville offices.

McCarty will succeed Raymond M. Rigdon, who will retire July 31 after more than 19 years as head of the seminaries' joint off-campus system.

Rigdon became director of the Seminary Extension Department in 1969 and was named executive director of the Seminary External Division when it was created in 1981.

Under Rigdon's leadership, both the enrollment and curriculum have doubled in size. In recent years about 8,000 students annually have enrolled in one or more of the 70 course selections, primarily on the college level.



## Powerline for teens

*How can I make up for wrong I've done?*

### QUESTION

I fell in with the wrong crowd and got involved in some really bad things. I fought with my parents and broke their hearts because of my rebellion and wild living. Now all my so-so-called friends are gone who-knows-where, and I have alienated all my family and church friends. Even God seems so far away. Why has He abandoned me like this? How can I ever make up for all the wrong things I've done?

### ANSWER

You have come face to face with the hard truth that actions have consequences. That is one characteristic of youth: it is hard for them to realize that their daily choices — which may seem very unimportant and trivial — may

have lifetime consequences.

Can you change the past? No. You cannot go back and undo the wrong that has been done. But does this mean the future must be ruined as well? Certainly not. God can redeem even the past, if you are willing to confess your sins to Him and to those you have wronged. Talk with your parents about your regret for what has happened and about what you can do to atone for your mistakes. Survey your situation to see what alternatives are open to you. Get busy doing something constructive with your life, instead of wasting your energies in punishing yourself for the destructive actions of the past.

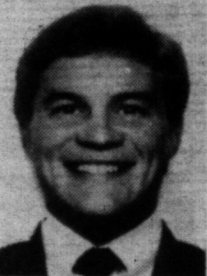
Be assured that God has not abandoned you. If He seems far away, it is not He who has moved! He is there beside you, waiting for you to stop trying to manage all these things by yourself instead of trusting Him to forgive and redeem. He will not erase the mistakes of the past, but He will help you deal with the consequences.

SOUTHERN BAPTIST RADIO-TV COMMISSION/FORT WORTH, TX 76101

## Staff changes

Ruleville Church, Ruleville, has called Brent Reeves as pastor.

Reeves, a native of Langdale, Ala., graduated from Fayette County High School, Fayetteville, Ga., and received a BA degree in 1985 from Samford University. He has attended Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, Tenn. since August, 1986 and plans to continue until he graduates. Reeves



Reeves

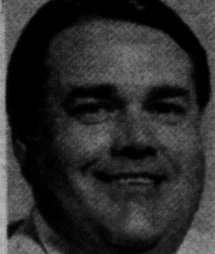
has served as youth pastor, interim pastor, and was ordained to preach by Ruleville Church.

Hermanville Church, Hermanville has called Donald I. Pouns of McComb as pastor. He received the associate of divinity degree, May 21, from New Orleans Seminary. He is married to Debby L. Dunaway of McComb.



Pouns

Alan Blount has accepted the call to Roseland Park Church in Picayune as its minister of education and special activities. He



Blount

began his ministry there on June 15, along with his wife, Margaret, and their two sons, Jim and Timothy. The Blounts are going from First Church, Arabi, La. James Spencer is pastor.

Terry Goodman is the new pastor of Center Ridge Church, Clarke County. He and his wife, Linda, have a son, Grant, and daughter, Erica.

Albert Creel and his wife, Marilyn, have moved to Clarke County, where he is the new pastor of East Pleasant Grove Church.

Chester Carlisle is the new pastor of Mount Zion Church, Clarke County. He and his wife, Kathy, have a son, Wesley, and daughter, Kelly.

## Team of seven works on coast

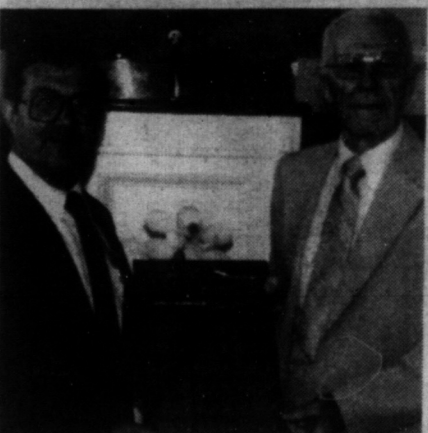
Gillsburg Church sponsored Ann Wilson and Brenda Wilson as part of a team of seven women who went on a mission trip to the Gulf Coast. The others, from various parts of the state, were Irene Rawls, Nona Walker, Ruth Hodges, Vivian Taylor and Mary Mayfield.

The group, under supervision of the Gulf Coast Association, led a Backyard Bible Club each morning in Wiggins. In the afternoons, they canvassed for the churches in the Biloxi area.

## Senior Adult Corner

First Church, Maben, Randle Poss, pastor, observed Senior Adult Sunday, June 12. Forty-two gathered for a breakfast served by young women in the church. J. Clark Hensley, Jackson, spoke at the breakfast and preached at the morning worship service. A senior adult choir directed by Billy Hester accompanied by Martha Lou Vaughn brought several special numbers.

Lowndes Association observed Senior Adult Day, June 11, at First Church, Columbus, with 90 people from eight churches represented. Mac Pace, Antioch Church, senior adult associational director planned the program. Participants were Slater Murphy, Fairview, Billy Folley, Macedonia, Union County, Lindell Davis, Cherry Creek, Ecu, and J. Clark Hensley, Jackson.



Kermit Taylor, right, was recently elected as Senior Adult of the Year, on Senior Adult Day at Williamsville Church, Kosciusko. Senior Adults filled the choir and took special part in the worship services on that day. They were honored with a luncheon following the service. Tom McCurley, left, is pastor.



Mrs. Carlena Hardin, left, was recognized as Senior Adult of the Year by David Hulsey, right, minister of education at Kosciusko's First Church. SAW (Senior Adult Week). Activities included "Back to Bible School," special emphasis in Sunday School, recognition of and participation of senior adults in the worship service, Senior Adult Choir, fellowship meal provided by younger Sunday School departments, and election of Senior Adult of the Year. The theme of the week was "Achieving Wholeness In Later Life."

"The 49+ Club" senior choir of First Church, Waynesboro, recently took a tour to Nashville. They attended church services at Two Rivers Church, visited Opryland, Grand Ole Opry, Upper Room, The Hermitage, and the General Jackson cruise. Wayne Meeks, minister of music, and 45 members made the trip.

Gore Springs Church had the largest group present from any one church at the Grandmother/Granddaughter Retreat at Camp Garaywa June 24-25. Those attending from Gore Springs were Mrs. Bobbie James, Mrs. Joy Stroud, and Mrs. Peggy Gillon with Leah Blakely, Karen Hardin, Carrie Clark, Susan Thompson, and Ellen Hutson.

"The Golden Club" of Oak Grove Church, Mt. Olive, recently traveled to Jackson to attend the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

Baptist Record

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July 21, 1988

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